Madam, I think, I have done. Madam, I would not allow this history to be tolerated. I would not allow that Indian History should be considered the History of India's defeat. I want an India whose history will be the history of victories, of successes, of assimilation, of love and cooperation. India has the most ennobling experience in spiritual co-existence. I want an India based on that basis, that is, saffron colour which gives you the most ennobling experience in spiritual co-existence. Thank you, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for one hour for lunch.

The House then adjourned for lunch at forty-seven minutes past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at fifty minutes past two of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Tenth Five Year Plan as adopted by National Development Council

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I would like to raise a discussion on the Tenth Five Year Plan, as adopted by the National Development Council.

Sir, first of all, I would like to thank you for providing us the opportunity of having a discussion on the Tenth Plan. I must compliment the Planning Commission for not only preparing the Plan document but also bringing out a special volume which provides the details of the State Plan, so that in one volume the economic performances of all the States of the country are available.

Sir, before I start my observations, I would like to quote a few lines from the Foreword written by the hon. Prime Minister, which has summed up the objectives of the Tenth Five Year Plan. I quote, "I have a vision of an India free of poverty, illiteracy and homelessness -- free of regional, social and gender disparities -- with modern physical and social infrastructure -- and a healthy and sustainable environment. Above all, an India which stands tall and proud in the comity of nations." There is no dispute. Every Indian would like to share this perception, this vision and the instrumentality through which we would like to realise that vision translated into reality all through certain set objectives which we have worked out in this Plan document. If we go through the strategies adopted by the Planning

Commission in the Plan document, we will find that there are four central dimensions of the planning -- one, the good governance; second, the creation of common economic space through the reversal of the process which created numerous barriers to inter-State and even intra-State trade and commerce; third, changing the mindset of the shortage which leads to the regime of pervasive controls and restrictions; and fourth, to provide the effective delivery of basic social services to our people; and, for this, transferring of functions and resources to empower the Panchayati Raj institutions is essential to achieve the objective. While articulating the draft approach to the Tenth Plan, the Planning Commission devoted a whole chapter on the feasibility of eight per cent GDP growth. Nobody in this House or outside would disagree if we want to double our national income and create ten million jobs per year to achieve the near full employment scenario, at least, by the end of next 10 years, the end of the Eleventh Plan. This eight per cent GDP growth is absolutely necessary but whether it is feasible, and to make it feasible, the necessary parameters which ought to be pursued which have been identified in the Plan documents itself, raise certain questions because, after all, the proof of a pudding is in its eating. When we are having the discussion on the Tenth Five Year Plan, Mr. Chairman, Sir, first year of the Tenth Plan is already over. The second year of the Tenth Plan has begun. I have certain figures, which, of course, the hon. Planning Minister would also have. I am not going to all these statistics. I would like to identify two very crucial issues. For the full period of five years, the commitment of the Central Government to provide gross budgetary support to the public sector enterprises and also to the Ministries are amounting to Rs.4,05,735 crores. It means, annually it will be Rs.80,147 crores, which are to be provided as the budgetary support. To effectively implement a Plan where the Central Component could be Rs.7,00,600 crores, States and Union Territories taken together the amount including the current outlay, would be roughly Rs.12,94,000 odd crores over a period of five years. Why I am emphasising on the budgetary support? If we look at the performance of the first two years, I am a little disturbed, rather a little distressed, that the two important components of the Plan, Central Plan, budgetary support and Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR), taken together, I find both in these two years, 2002 and 2003, and the entire period of the Ninth Plan -- I have the whole set of figures -- not a single year, and I am repeating 'not a single year', during the Ninth Five Year Plan, we have been able to reach -- I am not talking of the States, which I will come a little later on -- even at the Central stage, the target, which we

3.00 P.M.

fixed for ourselves in the Budget itself. Even for the first year at the Budget stage, the Central Plan outlay was fixed at Rs.1,44,038 crores and the IEBR component was Rs.77,167 crores and the budgetary support was Rs.66,871 crores. At the end of the year, when the Revised Estimates was made available, we found that the shortfall in the Central Plan outlay is little more than Rs.8,000 crores and that is coming from the IEBR. Here, I would like to flag a point, why we are repeatedly making these mistakes and using the one mistake whom we are trying to convince? During the entire five year period of the Ninth Plan, in the first year of the Tenth Plan, we are finding that never we are able to reach the IEBR -- Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources -- which are represented by IEBR in any of these years. So, what is the point of projecting a larger Plan size when you know fully well that the public sector enterprises are unable to raise the resources, which they are committing at the time of the formulation of the Plan? This is one point to which I would like to draw the attention of the House and I am glad that the hon. Prime Minister is also present.

The second point to which I would like to draw attention is that it has been stated almost throughout the entire document, if we want to achieve 8 per cent growth, certain hard decisions are needed to control expenditure, hard decisions are needed to raise revenue resources of the Government Hard decisions are needed to allocate the resources, and utilise them in the most effective way. How are we using these resources most effectively? I would just like to give one example. Mr. Chairman, Sir, all of us are concerned about the development of the North-Eastern region, which is also posing a very serious threat to the national security, and any institutional arrangement, which any Government initiates, receives the very wide support of all sections of the House. So, when in 1997, it was suggested by the then Prime Minister, Shri Deve Gowda, that each Central Ministry will be directed to earmark 10 per cent of the gross budgetary support of their Department to be spent in seven North-Eastern States, it was welcomed. The present Prime Minister went one step further, and he not only reiterated that commitment, but also directed the Planning Commission to formulate a scheme, which is known as the Non Lapsable Central Resource Pool. If this amount is not being spent by any Ministry or any Department, then it will be reverted back to the Non Lapsable Central Resource Pool. From 1998 to 2002, it has been calculated that Rs. 5806.07 crores have accumulated to this Fund, the Non Lapsable Central Resource

Pool, which the North-Eastern States are entitled to have. After making debit and credit, plus and minus, the Finance Ministry, in consultation with the newly created Department of DONER, Department for the North-Eastern Region, agreed that on 1st of April, 2002, you are entitled to have Rs. 2,853 crores for your development. And what do I find? The amount which is due to them, for which the Prime Minister had himself committed in the meeting at Shillong, who took the initiative to create this Non Lapsable Fund, the allocation for the first two years, 2002-03 and for the current year, 2003-04 is just 1100 crores of rupees; Rs. 550 crores for each year. The first point remains, what is the fun of allocating certain resources, and thereafter assuming, that those resources will not be utilized, thereafter, transferring those resources to certain Non Lapsable Central Resource Pool, and thereafter, those resources are not being disbursed to those who are entitled to have them. If we know that resources are not available, then what is the fun of earmarking those scarce resources for certain purposes for which they will not be utilised?

The second point on which I would like to draw the attention of the House is this. It is not too late. If certain corrective steps are to be taken, they will have to be taken right now. We have four developmental agencies for the States of the North-Eastern region. The State Governments are there. They are entitled to have the Central Plan assistance. Rather, they are entitled to have 90 per cent as grant and 10 per cent as loan, because they are all categorised as special category States. So, according to that old formula, they get. A part of the Plan assistance can be utilised by them for Non Plan expenditure because of their old resource base. All these are lofty ideals, and they require support of all sections of the House. But, my point is that, thereafter, you have also created another agency, the North Eastern Council, NEC, which is also engaged in the developmental activities. It is also engaged in the developmental activities. Then you create another agency, that is, the Department of North-Eastern Regional Development. And thereafter, all 38 Ministries and Departments of the Union Government are having their developmental projects in the region. Have you ever calculated the cost, overhead cost, of maintaining the paraphernalia of these four sets of agencies? Two sets of agencies are inevitable, but the other two sets of agencies, which we have added for the development, they are eating up, at least, a part of the developmental resources, which are allocated to them. This is one aspect, I thought, I should bring to the notice of the Government.

Then, coming to the performance of the Central Plan, and also the State Plan, what I find very distressing, Mr. Chairman, Sir, is that the total outlay of the Plans for the States and Union Territories taken together would be, as I find from the Plan document, at page 52, Rs. 5,88,325 crores, and the Central support would be to the tune of Rs. 3,00,265 crores. That is the Central support; the remaining would be borrowings. And the States' own contribution that has been assumed, both from the BCR and MCR, is negative, minus Rs. 12,891 crores. Fine, there is no problem. But the problem comes when I look at the state of the economy prevailing in all the States, combined. Just in the Winter Session, on the floor of this very House, we had the privilege of raising a discussion on the State finances. What do we find? I am just giving you one example, that is, the BCR, the Balance Current Revenue. The States were in a comfortable position up to 1986-87. Together, the States had a positive surplus of more than Rs. 3000 crores. In 1989-90, that surplus came down to Rs. 2000 crores, all the States taken together. Then, the situation worsened. We find that in 2001-02, the aggregate BCR of States is negative, minus Rs. 32,000 crores. And what is the state of the Union Government? In 1996-97, the States and Centre taken together, the negative contribution, from BCR, was Rs. 13,324 crores, just within three years. From 1996-97 to 1999-2000, this negative contribution of Rs. 13,324 reached a staggering figure of minus Rs. 92,969 crores. A question arises, as to who is going to foot the bill. The answer lies in taking hard decisions. I agree to that. And hard decisions are to be taken, not merely by disposing off the capital assets and getting some money to fund the Plan. The answer lies in improving the Tax - GDP ratio. When the Planning Commission itself recommends that the Tax - GDP ratio, which prevailed in this country up to 1989-90 -- the States and Centre taken together was more than 11.9 per cent of the Tax - GDP ratio -- it has come down to 9 per cent. The recommendation is that you go up to 11.06 per cent, which you have already achieved in 1989-90. How will these gaps be bridged? Do you expect that the States have to do it? I am giving you one example of the States. Take the case of pension bill. Fourteen major States of India, which had a pension bill, in aggregate, of 200 crores of rupees in 1975-76, today have a staggering pension bill of 2,000 crores of rupees! Nearly from two per cent of their total revenue expenditure, it has gone up to 12 per cent! And in the end of the Tenth Plan, it is estimated, it is going to reach 20 per cent. Nowadays, the State Governments have no resources except to meet their interest liabilities, salaries and wages, and that too irregularly, and to pay the pensions. So, from where would the

developmental resources come? When are you going to put the gear in the reverse direction? These questions are staring at us, and I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no carpet under which we can keep it. One the one hand, the tax-GDP ratio is going down. On the other hand, the tax-GDP expenditure is going up. If the tax-GDP expenditure goes up, and if the tax-GDP ratio goes down, how would you improve the situation? There are certain very strong points in the economy. Take advantage of those strong points, especially in this year. I am not going to discuss the details of the Budget; it has been very elaborately pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition, and here too, I am drawing the attention of the Prime Minister to one particular aspect which the Leader of the Opposition emphasised. Take the case of Defence Expenditure. This House or the other House thus never mind allocating whatever sums are demanded for the security and defence of the country. Lok Sabha has become very liberal, the Standing Committee has become very liberal, in making their recommendations. But what happens after that? The amount remains unspent! If you cannot spend, you make a proper projection, depending on your capability. What type of strategy is it to block the resources? If that amount of the resources were not blocked, perhaps, the Finance Minister and the Planning Commission could have utilised those resources in a proper manner so that the developmental expenditure could be stepped up. If we want to reduce the non-developmental expenditure, there are certain areas where you cannot do anything because it is already being done, interest payment; and the deterioration which has taken place in the just three years, between 1996-97 and 1999-2000, you cannot undo it when your negative contribution of BCR has deteriorated from 13,000 crores of rupees to 96,000 crores of rupees. How can the Government of India take the excuse that the Pay Commission has made this recommendation? May I most respectfully submit through you, Sir, "Who asks you to accept this recommendation?" Is it for the first time that the Finance Minister did the unpleasant job? I myself refused to accept the recommendations of the Eighth Finance Commission, and my colleagues, sitting on my left side, till today, are raising the issue or pointing their fingers, "How is it that you refused to give us money which was allocated to us by the Finance Minister?" It was because I made the calculation and found out that at that stage of the economy it was not possible for me to dole out the amount of resources which were to be given from the Central kitty. It would have created a serious problem. Fiscal deficit and revenue deficit, all taken together, would have gone off the marks. Therefore, at some point of time, certain unpleasant decisions have

to be taken. I do not like to mention the name of the Finance Minister. I have seen the record of one Finance Minister. Of course, he is not the Finance Minister of this Government. When the Pay Commission made some recommendations, he improved upon them. Fine, if you want to give more to your employees, nobody objects to it, provided you have the capacity to pay. If you don't have the capacity to pay, you can't put the national economy into jeopardy and create a situation, where to meet the normal consumption expenditure you have to borrow; and you have to borrow at a high rate of interest. Many of the State Governments depend on small savings. What is this small savings? When I had a discussion, as the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, with some of the State Chief Ministers, I asked them: "What is your own source of internal resources generation?" They said, "We are depending on small savings". After all, you have to pay back and pay back with interest. For the last 5-7 years the ratio between the State tax and the GDP is stagnant. There is no improvement. I am talking generally. There may be an exception of one or two States here and there. But all the States taken together, we find from the Planning Commission Document that it is stagnant. Therefore, I would like to submit, most respectfully, that the first two years have gone. There is a gestation period in the Indian economy. What has happened in 2002-03 and what is happening in 2003-04 are the outcome of the investment decisions taken during the last years of the Ninth Five Year Plan. Therefore, if we can take certain corrective measures right now, perhaps, we can salvage the situation. Here my first suggestion to the Government is that you really prioritise. One good scheme is coming up and I welcome it, and I congratulate the Prime Minister for taking the initiative for having high quality roads. If we can have high quality roads criss-crossing the whole country and maintain them, it will have a tremendous impact on our economy. But, after making a beginning, if it is half done, or, if it is incomplete, or, if it is not being done properly because of lack of resources, whatever investment you are making, that will go waste. It is accepted by the Planning Commission Document itself that there are a lot of unutilised capacity. Each and every section should have been analysed and examined. Perhaps, this is one of the reasons why the Planning Commission Document points out that it is not necessary to go through the normal conventional method that eight per cent GDP growth rate would be required for 32.62 per cent of investment as percentage of GDP. It means that the incremental capital and output ratio is around 3.5-4 per cent. If you can utilise the untapped capacity, the unutilised capacity, which has been

created by investment of the surpluses of the society, it will give you dividend in the remaining 2-3 years. In-between you can really prioritise. One hundred things cannot be prioritised. When you want to build the infrastructure, the main problems come from the power sector. During the Eighth Plan--I share the responsibility because we were in charge of implementing the Eighth Plan--we could not create the additional capacity which was required to be created during the Eighth Plan period. In the Ninth Plan it was practically directionless, not only in the power sector, but also in every infrastructure sector, because in the entire Plan period notionally the Budgetary allocations were not spent, both in the Central Plan sector and in the State Plan sector. As a consequence, though in the GDP growth scenario we reached around seven per cent during the terminal years of the Eighth Plan, we could not retain it and, ultimately, we landed in a modest growth rate of 5.6 per cent. Sir, I have no objection if the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission starts his observation -- I quote two lines from his observations -- by saying, "the Tenth Five Year Plan makes the return of visionary planning to India after a long interregnum of cautious optimism." Surely, there was a long interregnum of the cautions optimism. We ourselves adopted the philosophy of cautious optimism. That is why, at the beginning of the Eighth Plan, which we presented, I did not fix the higher target, keeping in view the environmental situation, both domestically and internationally, we fixed the growth target at 5.6 per cent. But, I am happy to inform you, Sir, which this Plan document itself points out, that the Eighth Plan target, the GDP target, was originally fixed at 5.6 per cent, but we ended up with 6.68 per cent.

This cautious optimism had paid dividend not only in the Eighth Plan, but even in the Seventh Plan, when the targeted growth was 5.0 per cent and we ended up with 6.02 per cent. In the Sixth Plan, the targeted growth rate was 5.2 per cent and it ended up with 5.4 per cent in real terms. Therefore, we must have mission, we must think big. But, it cannot be totally cut-off from the reality and the ground reality, today, is that tax GDP is coming down, the expenditure GDP is going up. The States and the Centre are to borrow from the market at a high rate of interest to meet the normal consumption expenditure and still we are tinkering. Several times, it has been debated on the floor of this House and the other House that we always raise accusing finger towards subsidies. I do agree that our economy cannot bear the burden of 15 to 16 per cent of GDP as subsidies. But, merely expressing our concern is not enough. We shall have to take

concrete steps to reduce it. We have suggested repeatedly, let there be an informal discussion; let a paper be brought out. Let all concerned political parties, industrialists and trade unions be fully involved and identify the areas where subsidies are absolutely necessary and where the subsidies could be cut. If it could be brought down from 15 or 16 per cent to 9 or 10 per cent, lot of savings would be there.

Are we really serious in respect of the borrowings? This is a question, which is coming to my mind. Unless we tackle the problem of the revenue deficit, and, if the revenue deficit runs three to three and a half per cent by tinkering with the deposits interest rates, how can we reduce the real interest rates? The opportunity was there. Basic fundamentals of the economy were strong -- huge buffer stock in foodgrains and huge foreign exchange reserves. Instead of Current Account deficit, there is Current Account surplus. Exports have started picking up. But, if it is switch-off and switch-on; this year's 18 per cent growth reduces to five or six per cent growth next year, it will not help us. Whatever growth rate we would like to achieve, it must be sustainable. And, if we want to have a sustainable growth, we must take the reality into account. In our school days, we used to read two English poems, one composed by Shelly and another by Wordsworth. Both of them were Victorian age poets. Shelly's skylark always soaring high in the blue sky, described as ethereal minstrel pilgrim of the sky but Wordsworth skylark not only flew high in the blue sky, but also kept its eyes on the nest, on a tea-top, that means, don't forget the reality. Eight per cent GDP growth is absolutely necessary. Creation of 10 million jobs is absolutely necessary. But what disturbs me is this. When Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Finance Minister, we had identified certain agro-processed industries in order to encourage investment in the agro-processed industries in rural areas and build up rural infrastructure by creating cold storages. Look at the first Budget, 1989-90. What signal did we send? All the tax concessions were withdrawn. New taxes were imposed. Then two-three years had lapsed. Thereafter another announcement had to be made that we would like to build up cold storage; we would like to build up infrastructure in the rural areas; agro-based industry, agro processed industry is one vital area for the development of rural areas and generation of jobs.

The third point which I am trying to drive at, Mr. Chairman, Sir, is that this type of *adhoc* and causal approach in respect of certain policies must be given up. I have no quarrel with the Plan document. The

problems have been identified properly. Diagnosis is correct and the remedies are also suggested correctly. But when the question of the actual implementation comes, if medicines are not used in proper manner -- there are many doctors who are laughing at me and they might be saying why a non-medical man should talk of a disease -- naturally the medicines would not have that impact. We have reached a very crucial stage of our developmental planning.

Lastly, I would like to speak on good governance. I entirely agree that that is one of the centrality of our developmental objective. As we have to improve the delivery system, we ought to come out of our mindset; we ought to think big; we ought to be competitive. We cannot reverse the process of changes which are taking place all over the world. At the same time, we are to provide good governance, good security and create an environment where investors will feel confident. They will not feel shy of. Nothing but good governance, continuity of the policies and transparency can create that environment where investment would come.

Still I do believe that higher rate of domestic savings is absolutely imperative to have higher rate of investments. Whatever we may think of direct foreign investments, whatever we may think of investments from other sources, there is no substitute to our own resources and there we must have a stable interest regime and that stable interest regime is closely linked with the restoration of fiscal balance. We should encourage domestic savings and we should encourage savings to be generated in those sectors which are achievable. In the terminal years of the Eighth Plan, we achieved 26 per cent plus. It came down during the Ninth Plan. Now you are projecting to have 29.6 per cent. But try to fix that target; reach that target by all means and provide the necessary fiscal support regime to achieve these objectives. If we have that and with certain other measures -- naturally we cannot discuss all these aspects; I have outlined some of the very broad features -- if we can take this cautious correct approach with determination, it would be possible to have the desired level of growth and our ultimate objective which the Prime Minister has very correctly pointed out to create a bold and proud India where everybody will have a role to play. Thank you.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति महोदया, पहले तो मैं इस सदन के सम्मानित सदस्य श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी साहब के विद्वतापूर्ण भाषण के लिए उनको बधाई देना चाहता हूं। जब ये भारत सरकार में वित्त मंत्री थे तब भी दर्शक दीर्घा में बैठकर उनका भाषण सुनने का मुझे अवसर प्राप्त हुआ था और आज भी इस सदन में मैंने उनके भाषण को सुना है। मैं यह कह

सकता हूं कि ट्रेजरी बैंच के सदस्य के रूप में अथवा मंत्री के रूप में कैसी भूमिका का निर्वाह करना चाहिए और अपोजिशन बैंच पर जब सदस्य हों तो कैसी भूमिका का निर्वाह करना चाहिए यह जानकारी उन्हें अच्छी तरह है और उसका उन्होने निर्वाह किया है। उन्होने कुछ मुद्दे बहुत ही रिलिवेंट खड़े किए हैं। लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि अपने भाषण मे मैं उनका उत्तर नही देना चाहूंगा, माननीय नियोजन मंत्री जी जब खड़े होगे उसका उत्तर देने के लिए तो वे उत्तर देगे। लेकिन अच्छा रहा होता कि माननीय प्रणब मुखर्जी ने जो यह टेथ फाइव इयर प्लान है इसके जो कुछ यूनीक फीचर्स हैं उन यूनीक फीचर्स की उन्होंने चर्चा कर दी होती। मैं यह कह सकता हूं कि आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी के नेतृत्व मे विगत पांच वर्षो से एन0डी0ए0 गवर्नमेंट इस देश में काम कर रही है और एन0डी0ए0 गवर्नमेंट के कार्यकाल का यह पहला फाइव इयर प्लान है और 5 वर्षों में एन0डी0ए0 गवर्नमेंट ने जो भी काम किया है यह बात विश्वास के साथ कही जा सकती है और केवल मैं ही नही कह रहा हूं बल्कि दुनिया के दूसरे देश भी इस बात को स्वीकार करते हैं कि भारत ने विकास के एक नए आयाम कायम किए, चाहे वह सड़क विस्तार का सवाल हो अथवा संचार सेवाओं के विस्तार का सवाल हो, चाहे वह पोखरण के न्यूक्लीयर एक्सप्लोजन का सवाल हो अथवा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जिस कूटनीतिज्ञ कुशलता का परिचय हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व मे इस भारत ने दिया है उसका प्रश्न हो। भारत ने सारी दुनिया मे अपनी एक प्रभावशाली उपस्थिति दर्ज कराई है यह बात मैं विश्वास के साथ कह सकता हूं। यही कारण है कि भारतवासियो के मन मे एक नई आशा का संचार हुआ है। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा कि हम जल्दी ही भारत को दुनियां के विकसित देशो की श्रेणी मे लाकर खड़ा करना चाहते हैं। उनकी यह कल्पना है कि ऐसे भारत का निर्माण होना चाहिए जो भारत सम्पन्न हो, जो भारत स्वावलम्बी हो, जो भारत स्वाभिमानी हो। यह बात सच है कि इस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए हम सब के सामने चुनौतियां भी बहुत सारी हैं और ये चुनौतियां आसान नहीं हैं बल्कि ये चुनौतियां बहुत ही कठिन हैं। इन चुनौतियों का मुकाबला यदि हम कर सकते हैं तो मिलजुल कर ही हम इन चुनौतियो का मुकाबला कर सकते हैं। लेकिन विगत 5 वर्षो मे जो हमारा आत्मविश्वास बढ़ा उस आधार पर मैं कह सकता हूं कि निश्चित रूप से हम चुनौतियो का मुकाबला करेगे और जो हमारी मंजिल है हम मंजिल तक पहुंच कर ही दम लेगे। आवश्यकता होती है एक निर्धारित बड़े लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए पौलिटिकल विल पॉवर की और पौलिटिकल विल पॉवर के साथ-साथ नेशनल कंसेसस की भी आवश्यकता होती है। पांच वर्षो में इस सरकार ने निश्चित रूप से यह दिखाया है कि उसके पास पौलिटिकल विल पॉवर की कमी नही है। कई ऐसी घटनाएं हैं जिन घटनाओं का उदाहरण देकर दृढ़ राजनीतिक इच्छा शक्ति का परिचय इस सरकार ने दिया है। लेकिन जहां तक नेशनल कंसेसस का प्रश्न है, मैं कह सकता हूं कि यह हमारे स्वतंत्र भारत की विडम्बना है कि नेशनल इश्यूज की बात तो छोड़ दीजिए इंटरनेशनल इश्यूज पर भी जैसा कंसेसस होना चाहिए वैसा कंसेसस कभी नही बन पाता। अब मैं एक ताजा उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं। एक डिप्लोमैटिक रेजोल्यूशन लाया जाना था। अब शब्दो को लेकर जिस प्रकार का विवाद खड़ा किया गया।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री राजनाथ सिंह : मैं आ रहा हूं। आप चिंता मत कीजिए।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : माननीय राजनाथ सिंह जी, मेरा अनुरोध यह है कि कृपा करके ऐसे समय बोले - क्योकि यह अपराह्न के समय की चर्चा है - कि लोग सोएं नहीं। आधे मंत्री सो

रहे हैं। या तो दस्तादेज मे कुछ कमी है या कही न कही कुछ मामला बोलने मे है।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह : ये तो बराबर जगते रहेंगे। मैं अनुरोध करूंगा कि आप भी जगते रहे। महोदय, मैं यह निवेदन कर रहा था कि एक डिप्लोमैटिक रेज़ोल्यूशन के शब्दो को लेकर विवाद खड़ा हुआ जिसका संदेश सारी दुनिया मे जैसा जाना चाहिए था, वैसा हम नही दे पाए। मैं बस इतना ही अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि...

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सर, यह बहुत दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात है कि जो प्रस्ताव दोनो सदनो मे सर्वसम्मति से पारित हुआ, उसकी आलोचना राजनाथ सिंह जी करे। इससे इसका कोई संबंध नहीं है। हम यहां टैंथ प्लान डिसकस कर रहे हैं। यह उदाहरण भी दुनिया के लिए कुछ अच्छा संकेत नहीं दे रहा, कम से कम मैं इतना तो मैं कह सकता हूं।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह : मैं आलोचना नहीं कर रहा। बाद मे सर्वसम्मत प्रस्ताव हम लोगों ने पारित किया है इसमें कोई दो राय नही है।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : मान्यवर, यह जो प्रस्ताव है, यह सर्वोच्च आसंदी से प्रस्तुत किया गया प्रस्ताव है। माननीय सभापति के द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया गया प्रस्ताय है।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह : जब प्रस्ताव पर चर्चा हो रही थी, तब की बात मैं करता हूं। जैसा संदेश गया, वह ठीक नही कहा जा सकता, यह हमारी धारणा है।

श्री सभापति : आप योजना पर आ जाइए।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह : सभापति महोदय, मै यह कहना चाहता हूं कि...

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : हम समझ रहे थे कि उत्तर प्रदेश की चर्चा करते करते आप आलोचना मे बह गये।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह : मैं आलोचना करने का आदी नही हूं, समालोचना करने का जरूर आदी हूं। मैं यह भी अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि यह आवश्यक नही है कि किसी भी सरकार के द्वारा जो भी काम किए जाएं, उसकी आलोचना ही की जाए। मैं यह भी नहीं कहना चाहता हूं कि पिछली सरकारों ने जो कुछ किया, वह गलत किया। पिछली सरकारो ने भी इसके लिए बहुत कुछ अच्छा किया है। पिछली सरकारो के कार्यकाल में भी इस देश ने प्रगति की है। यह बात सही है कि प्रगति की जिस ऊंचाई को हमें हासिल करना चाहिए था, उस ऊंचाई को हम हासिल नहीं कर पाए । जैसे मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि ग्लोबलाइज़ेशन, लिब्रलाइजेशन, मॉडर्नाइजेशन का सिलसिला पिछली सरकार, यानी कांग्रेस की जब सरकार थी, तब प्रारम्भ हुआ। हम लोगो ने उसकी आलोचना नहीं की। हमने कहा कि यह होना चाहिए क्योकि हम इस सच्चाई को जानते हैं कि हम इस देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था से अलग थलग नही रख सकते। इस यथार्थ को कोई भी नकार नही सकता है। लेकिन हां, हमने यह सावधानी बरती है कि ग्लोबलाइजेशन, लिब्रलाइजेशन का सिलसिला चलने के बाद किसी भी सूरत मे हमारे देश की इकानॉमी की स्वायत्तता पर, हमारे देश की इकानॉमी की आटोनॉमी पर आंच न आने पाए । मैं सम्माननीय सदस्यों को याद दिलाना चाहूंगा कि सिएटल मे जो डब्ल्यूटीओ का सम्मेलन हुआ था और दोहा मे भी भारत ने जो भूमिका निभाई है, उसमें हमने यह सिद्ध कर दिया है कि हम देश की आर्थिक स्वायत्तता के साथ किसी भी प्रकार का समझौता नही कर सकते। विकास के लिए

प्लानिंग हर देश में होती है, हमारे देश में भी हो रही है। होनी भी चाहिए। हम लोग भी कर रहे हैं लेकिन हां, मैं इतना जरूर कहना चाहूंगा कि यदि यह प्लानिंग ठीक तरीके से पहले हुई होती तो निश्चित रूप से 47 वर्ष के समय में और वह भी भारत जैसे देश में, जहां पर जन सम्पदा की कोई कमी नहीं है, जहां पर प्राकृतिक सम्पदा की कमी नहीं है, हमें सचमुच में आकर दुनिया की डैवलप्ड कंट्रीज की कतार में खडे हो जाना चाहिए था लेकिन आज भी हमारी गणना दुनिया के विकासशील देशों में होती है। कहीं न कहीं तो कमी रही है, कहीं न कहीं तो कोई खामी रही है। लेकिन इस दसवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना को तैयार करने के लिए मैं प्लानिंग कमीशन को बधाई देना चाहता हूं। आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी का दिशा निर्देश निश्चित रूप से सराहनीय है जिन्होंने यह कहा है कि जो पिछली सरकारों की उपलब्धियां हैं, उनको हम कैसे स्ट्रैंथन कर सकते हैं, उनको हम कैसे मजबूती दे सकते हैं। लेकिन जो उनके ड्रॉबैक्स हैं, जो खामियां हैं, जो कमियां हैं, हम उनको कैसे सुधारें, इसका ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए और प्लानिंग कमीशन ने इस टैंथ फाइव ईयर प्लान को तैयार करते समय इस बात का पूरा ध्यान रखा है। श्रीमन्, जितने भी सम्मानित सदस्य हैं, वे चाहेंगे कि इस देश का विकास होना चाहिए। सारा देश चाहता है कि हमारे देश का विकास हो। विकास को ही लक्ष्य बनाकर योजनाएं पहले भी बनती रही हैं और आज भी बनी हैं लेकिन योजना बनाते समय इस बात का निश्चित रूप से ध्यान रखने की आवश्यकता होती है कि यदि हम विकास करना चाहते हैं तो विकास में सबकी भागीदारी हो। Common masses का इनवॉल्वमेंट हो और विकास का फल, उसका हिस्सा जब हमें मिले तो वह जनसामान्य को मिल सके, इस बात की कोशिश की जानी चाहिए। प्राय: जो पिछली योजनाएं रही हैं, उनके ऊपर जब मैंने नज़र डालने की कोशिश की तो मैंने देखा कि प्रोजेक्टेड डेफिसिट कुछ होता है और रीयल डेफिसिट कुछ और होता है। अब प्रोजेक्टेड डेफिसिट और रीयल डेफिसिट के बीच का अंतर इतना बड़ा हो जाता है कि मैं समझता हूं कि किसी प्लान अथवा बजट के कैलकुलेशन से एकदम सब डिस्टर्ब हो जाता है, सब गड़बड़ हो जाता है। हम अपना जो टार्गेट फिक्स करते हैं, उस टार्गेट को भी एचीव नहीं कर पाते हैं। मैं प्लानिंग कमीशन को बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि इस 10th Five Year Plan को तैयार करते समय उन्होंने इस बात का ध्यान रखा है कि इन दोनों के बीच का गैप ज्यादा न होने पाए। गैप हो सकता है और होता भी है लेकिन इसे फिल-अप किया जा सकता है।

सभापति महोदय, प्लानिंग कमीशन ने इस बार एक विशेष ध्यान इकानॉमिक डिस्पैरिटी के बारे में दिया है कि इकानॉमिक डिस्पैरिटी केवल रीजन टू रीजन नहीं, क्षेत्र और क्षेत्र के बीच की इकानॉमिक डिस्पैरिटी नहीं बल्कि मैन टू मैन भी इकानॉमिक डिस्पैरिटी नहीं होनी चाहिए। यदि मैन टू मैन इकानॉमिक डिस्पैरिटी है तो इस डिस्पैरिटी को कैसे मिनिमाइज़ किया जा सकता है, इस बात का भी ध्यान प्लानिंग कमीशन ने रखा है, इसलिए प्लानिंग कमीशन को मैं बधाई देना चाहता हूं ।

श्रीमन्, डोमेस्टिक एवं ग्लोबल इकानॉमी में जिस प्रकार के चेंजेज हो रहे हैं, इन चेंजेज़ को ध्यान में रखकर 10th Five Year Plan तैयार करने का काम इस प्लानिंग कमीशन ने किया है, इसलिए भी मैं प्लानिंग कमीशन को अपनी तरफ से विशेष रूप से बधाई देना चाहता हूं। जैसा प्रारंभ में मैंने कहा कि मैं इस 10th Five Year Plan के यूनीक फीचर्स की तरफ सम्मानित सदस्यों का ध्यान आकर्षित कराना चाहता हूं, तो यूनीक फीचर्स तो ऐसे कई हैं। जब मैं पढ़ रहा था, उस समय यूनीक फीचर्स की गणना जब मैं करने लगा तो उनकी संख्या लंबी हो रही थी लेकिन यहां पर मैं केवल पांच-सात यूनीक फीचर्स जो इस प्लान के हैं, जो विशेषताएं हैं, उनकी

चर्चा करना चाहता हूं। प्लानिंग कमीशन ने जो 8 परसेंट प्रति वर्ष ग्रोथ टार्गेट निर्धारित किया है, इसकी आदरणीय प्रणब मुखर्जी साहब ने भी सराहना की है। टार्गेट पहले भी निर्धारित होता रहा है लेकिन वह टार्गेट सचमुच मॉडेस्ट टार्गेट था । अब 8 परसेंट ग्रोथ रेट यदि हमने निर्धारित किया है तो पांच वर्ष के अंदर बिलो पॉवर्टी लाइन जीवन-निर्वाह करने वालो का प्रतिशत जो आज 27 है, उसको हम पांच वर्ष समाप्त होते-होते 18 फीसदी तक लाना चाहते हैं। हम इस सच्चाई को भी जानते हैं कि रेट ऑफ ग्रोथ यदि कम होता है तो स्वाभाविक रूप से बेरोज़गारी बढ़ती है। कोई यह दावा करे कि भले ही रेट ऑफ ग्रोथ कम हो, हम बेरोज़गारी नहीं बढ़ने देंगे, यह कदापि संभव नहीं है। निश्चित रूप से यह काम चुनौती भरा है लेकिन फिर से मैं इस सरकार को बधाई देना चाहता हूं, प्रधानमंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने जो रिफॉर्म प्रोसेस प्रारंभ किया है चाहे वह पावर सेक्टर का हो, टैलीकॉम सेक्टर का हो या डिफरेंट सेक्टर्स मे भी रिफॉर्म्स का जो सिलसिला उन्होने शुरू किया है, उस आधार पर मैं कह सकता हूं कि इन चुनौतियो का निश्चित रूप से मुकाबला किया जा सकता है।

आदरणीय प्रणब मुखर्जी साहब ने टैक्स - जी.डी.पी. रेशियो की चर्चा की लेकिन प्लानिंग कमीशन ने पूरी तरह से यह सावधानी बरती है कि टैक्स - जी.डी.पी. रेशियो बढ़नी चाहिए। इस टेन्थ फाइव ईयर प्लान का यह भी एक यूनीक फीचर है। लेकिन यदि टैक्स - जी.डी.पी. रेशियो हम बढ़ाना चाहते हैं तो टैक्स रेट बढ़ाकर, टैक्स का बोझ लोगो के कंधो पर डालकर नही बढ़ाना चाहते हैं। हम टैक्स ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन में सुधार लाना चाहते हैं। जो लूप-होल्स हैं, उनकी प्लगिंग करके, उनको रोक कर, tax evasion कैसे रोका जा सकता है - इन सारी सावधानियों को बरतते हुए हमारे प्लानिंग कमीशन ने टैक्स - जी.डी.पी. रेशियो को बढ़ाने के बारे में एक लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है। मैं यह बात पूरे विश्वास के साथ कहना चाहूंगा कि डिसइनवेस्टमेंट का कदम जो इस सरकार ने उठाया है, मैं उसकी भी सराहना करता हूं। डिस-इन्वेस्टमेंट के प्रश्न को लेकर लोगों के द्वारा विवाद खड़े किए जाते हैं और कभी-कभी तो लोग इस सीमा तक चले जाते है कि यह सरकार पब्लिक सैक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स को बेच रही है। कम से कम इस प्रकार का आरोप लगाने से पहले गंभीरतापूर्वक लोग विचार नहीं करते कि हम कितने गंभीर आरोप लगा रहे हैं। क्या यह सरकार इस देश को बेचेगी? पब्लिक सैक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स को बेचना चाहते हैं? हम उन सारी अंडरटेकिंग्स की एफिसिएन्सी को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, हम उसकी प्रोडेक्टिविटी को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, लक्ष्य तो हमारे सामने यह है। हमारा थ्रस्ट डिस-इन्वेस्टमेंट पर भी है और प्राइवेटाइजेशन पर भी है। इसके साथ ही स्टेट और सैन्टर दोनो का रेवेन्यु बढ़े, एक यह भी इसके पीछे सोच है और यह भी आवश्यक नहीं है कि हर काम सरकार ही करे। कुछ काम ऐसे हो सकते हैं जो सैन्सिटिय सेक्टर्स हो सकते हैं, जिन सेक्टर्स मे सरकार की दखल अंदाजी होनी चाहिए। श्रीमन्, मैं यह कह सकता हूं कि सचमुच 8 परसेंट ग्रोथ रेट का जो टार्गेट प्लानिंग कमीशन ने निर्धारित किया है, वह निश्चितरूप से एक फिजिबल टार्गेट है। यह बात सही है कि कठिन है, लेकिन फिजिबल है और इस टार्गेट को एचीव किया जा सकता है। मैं इस प्लानिंग कमीशन की अगली यूनीक फीचर की तरफ ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा कि हमने विशेष रूप से सोशल और इन्फ्रायरन्मेंटल सैक्टर्स में कुछ स्पेसिफिक मोनिटरेबुल टार्गेट्स फिक्स किए हैं - जैसे हमने रोजगार बढ़ाने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है, 10 मिलियन का यानी एक करोड़ का प्रतिवर्ष। पांच वर्षो में हम पांच करोड़ लोगो को रोजगार मुहैया कराएंगे। 2003 तक सभी बच्चे जिनकी पढ़ाई करने की आयु है उनको कम से कम स्कूल मे प्रवेश मिल जाए। 2007 समाप्त होते-होते, इस हिन्दुस्तान का ऐसा कोई भी बच्चा शेष न रहे जो पांच बरस की स्कूली शिक्षा

प्राप्त न कर ले। ग्रोथ रेट ऑफ पॉपुलेशन को भी कम करने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है। बच्चों की मृत्यु दर जो पहले पर थाउजेंड 75 थी, उसको घटाकर पांच वर्षों के बाद वह 45 पर थाउजेंड पहुंच जाए। श्रीमन्, फारेस्ट बहुत ही कम कवर हुआ है। प्रकृति अपना संतुलन खोने लगी है। प्रकृति जब अपना संतुलन खोती है तो स्वाभाविक रूप से बाढ़ और सूखे की प्राकृतिक आपदा का शिकार हिन्दुस्तान की जनता को होना पड़ता है। सचमुच इस प्राकृतिक आपदा का सबसे ज्यादा असर यदि किसी के ऊपर होता है तो जो गरीब होता है, किसान होता है उसके ऊपर होता है। तो यह फारेस्ट कवर भी पांच वर्षों के अंदर बढ़ाकर 25 परसेंट तक करने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है। कैसी विडम्बना है कि आजादी के 55 वर्ष गुजर जाने के बाद भी हम गांव तक पानी की व्यवस्था नही कर पाए। आज भी आप चले जाइए, चाहे राजस्थान हो या मध्य प्रदेश हो, मैं उत्तर प्रदेश के बुंदेलखंड की ओर भी ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। कई ऐसे स्थान हैं जहां पर गर्मी के दिनों में पानी के लिए लोग तरसते रहते हैं, किलोमीटर दो किलोमीटर तक जाकर उनको अपने परिवार के लिए पेयजल की व्यवस्था करनी पड़ती है। इसलिए पांच वर्षों के अंदर सभी गांवो मे हम पेयजल की व्यवस्था सुनिश्चित कर दे, यह प्लानिंग कमीशन ने लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है। हमारी जितनी सभी मेजर रीवर्स हैं उनमें पॉल्यूशन बढ़ रहा है। इनकी सफाई का जो लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है वह भी निश्चित रूप से बहुत ही सराहनीय है। जैसा माननीय प्रणब मुखर्जी साहब ने कहा कि पहली बार ऐसा हुआ है। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि स्वतंत्र भारत मे पहली बार हुआ है। प्लानिंग कमीशन ने स्टेट लेवल पर भी टार्गेट निर्धारित करने का काम किया है। मैं समझता हूं कि स्टेट लेवल पर टार्गेट फिक्स करने का काम स्वतंत्र भारत के इतिहास मे कभी नही हुआ है, यह पहली बार हुआ है। रीजनल इम्बेलेंस पैदा न होने पाएं, क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन पैदा न होने पाएं, इस पर भी यहां ध्यान दिया है। वही पर एक राष्ट्रीय संघ विकास योजना भी है। इस राष्ट्रीय संघ विकास योजना के अन्तगर्त इस पूरे देश से सौ ऐसे जिले आइडेंटिफाई किए हैं, बैकवर्ड डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स आइडेंटिफाई किए हैं जिनका कि विकास करने पर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाए। क्योंकि हम चाहते हैं कि विकास तो हो लेकिन वह विकास बेलेन्स्ड हो, हार्मोनियस हो, यह हमारी सरकार का उद्देश्य है। प्लानिंग कमीशन ने इस ओर विशेष रूप से ध्यान दिया है। इस बार यदि हमने विकास की बात पर आग्रह किया है तो हमने विकास को रोजगार के साथ जोड़ा है। नाइन्टीज मे भी जीडीपी बढ़ी है, जीडीपी घटी नही है। लेकिन सचमुच मैं कह सकता हूं कि यह जीडीपी बढ़ी तो है, यह ग्रोथ हुआ तो है लेकिन यह जॉबलैस ग्रोथ का समय था। इस विकास के साथ नाइन्टीज मे, नब्बे के दशक में जितना रोजगार जुड़ना चाहिए था उतना नही जुड़ पाया है। एक यूनीक फीचर और है कि जो सारी योजनाएं बनाई गई हैं उनका प्रापर इम्प्लिमेंटेशन, एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव रिफार्म्स कैसे होना चाहिए, इस संबंध मे प्लानिंग कमीशन ने अपने कुछ सुझाव दिए हैं। निश्चित रूप से प्लान मे रिफार्म्स के भी कुछ एम्बिशियश प्रोग्राम्स हैं। मैं कुछ नीतियो की चर्चा करना चाहूंगा जिसके कारण क्वालिटी एण्ड कास्ट ऑफ इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर इम्प्रूव करेगे। पावर सेक्टर मे हमारी सरकार ने रिफार्म प्रारंभ कर दिया है, टेलीकाम सेक्टर मे भी सरकार ने रिफार्म किया है। 1994-95 मे टेलीकाम सेक्टर मे पिछली सरकार की जो पॉलिसी थी उस पॉलिसी के कारण एक कंफ्यूजन क्रिएट हुआ था। टेलीकाम सेक्टर मे उस कंफ्यूजन को दूर करने का काम इस सरकार ने किया है। इसके लिए यह सरकार बधाई की पात्र है। कैसे किया है? एक रिवोल्यूशनरी मैनेजमेंट के द्वारा किया है। टोटल डीरेग्युलेराइजेशन ऑफ बेसिक, सेल्युलर, इंटरनेट एण्ड अदर काइन्ड ऑफ पब्लिकेशन कर दिया। इनका डीरेग्युलेराइजेशन कर दिया है। सेवाएं पहले से बेहतर हुई हैं।

सभापति जी, अब मैं रोड सैक्टर की चर्चा करना चाहता हूं। स्वतंत्र भारत के इतिहास मे ही नही - मैं यह कह सकता हूं कि शेरशाह सूरी ने जब कभी यह कल्पना की होगी कि यदि सारे हिन्दुस्तान का विकास होना है तो अच्छी सड़को का जाल बिछना चाहिए, स्वतंत्र भारत के इतिहास में यदि इस ओर किसी ने सर्वाधिक दिया है तो आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी के नेतृत्व की सरकार ने दिया है। पिछली सरकारो के कार्यकाल मे केवल चार से लेकर छह लेन तक की पांच सौ चौंसठ किलोमीटर की पक्की सड़को का निर्माण हुआ। आपने लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है कि भारत की राजधानी दिल्ली को मुम्बई, कोलकाता, चेन्नई से चार से लेकर छह लेन की सड़को के द्वारा हम 2004, 2005 तक जोड़ देंगे। हम अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर की सड़को का निर्माण कर देगे। इसे देखना है। सभापति जी, आप तो जयपुर मे रहे हैं। जयपुर राजस्थान की राजधानी है। दिल्ली से जयपुर जाने में पहले छह घण्टे का समय लगता था लेकिन यदि आज दिल्ली से जयपुर जाना हो तो मैं समझता हूं कि यह रास्ता तीन घण्टे, पौने तीन घण्टे के अंदर तय किया जा सकता है। केवल हमारे बड़े-बड़े शहरो को ही इस स्तर से जोड़ने का काम नही है बल्कि गांवो को भी पक्की संपर्क सड़कों से 2007 तक जोड़ दिया जाना चाहिए। जब तक गांव मे बुनियादी ढांचो का विकास नहीं होगा तब तक गांव के विकास की हमारी कल्पना साकार नहीं हो सकती है। इस यथार्थ को हमारी सरकार ने समझा है और सब गांवो को पक्के संपर्क सड़को से जोड़ने की बात कही है। मैं कह सकता हूं कि आजाद भारत मे पहले कभी भी विलेज रोड और डिस्ट्रिक्ट रोड की चिंता सैंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने नही की। यह पहली बार हुआ है जब विलेज रोड और डिस्ट्रिक्ट रोड की चिंता हमारी सैंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने की है।

पोर्ट सेक्टर मे भी इन्वेस्टमेंट की बात है। प्राइवेट इन्वेस्टर्स आए हैं, इन्वेस्टमेंट हुआ है। शिप्स का टर्न अराउण्ड टाइम भी पहले से बढ़ा है, यह बात किसी से छिपी नही है। मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि नाइन्टीज के फाइव इयर प्लान मे कुछ ब्लन्डर्स हुए हैं। अब उसे ब्लन्डर कहा जाए अथवा छोटी-मोटी गलती हुई है कहा जाए, यह अलग बात है। हिन्दुस्तान एक कृषि प्रधान देश है। हमारा ध्यान यहां की खेती पर होना चाहिए लेकिन हमने इसमे एग्रीकल्चर को, फार्मिंग को इग्नोर कर दिया है। इंडस्ट्री पर ज्यादा ध्यान दिया है। मैं नीयत पर संदेह नही करना चाहता हूं केवल पिछली सरकारो की नीति पर विवाद खड़ा करना चाहता हूं। उनकी भी इच्छा थी कि ग्रोथ बढ़े लेकिन यह भी हो सकता है कि इकोनॉमिक्स की एक पर्क्युलेटिंग थ्योरी है कि यदि ऊपर ज्यादा पैसा आ गया तो अपने आप पर्प्युलेट होते-होते समाज की अंतिम सीढ़ी पर जो व्यक्ति बैठा है उस तक उसका लाभ पहुंच जाएगा। लेकिन सभी जानते हैं कि इकोनॉमिक्स की यह पर्क्युलेटिंग थ्योरी अपना दम तोड़ रही है या तोड़ चुकी है। यदि एग्रीकल्चर सैक्टर को इग्नोर किया जाएगा तो ठीक नही होगा। इस पर जितना ध्यान देना चाहिए उतना नही दिया गया है। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि प्लानिंग कमीशन ने इस प्लान मे एग्रीकल्चर को अपना कोर सैक्टर माना है। और हम इस सच्चाई को भी जानते हैं कि गांव का रहने वाला किसान हिन्दुस्तान का सब से बड़ा उत्पादक है, सब से बड़ा उपभोक्ता है और सब से बड़ा ग्राहक है। जब तक इसकी क्रय क्षमता, जब तक इसकी परचेजिंग कैपेसिटी नही बढ़ेगी,...**(व्यवधान)**... श्रीमन्, सिर्फ पांच मिनट। जब तक इस किसान की परचेजिंग कैपेसिटी नही बढ़ेगी, तब तक हम हिन्दुस्तान का जैसा विकास करना चाहते हैं अथवा हर व्यक्ति को जैसा हम रोजगार देना चाहते हैं, वह हम किसी भी सूरत मे नही कर सकते। श्रीमन्, आप भी किसान हैं और आप भी जानते है कि यह कैसी विडंबना है कि चाहे कितना बड़ा भी किसान क्यो न हो, सौ एकड़ की खेती करने वाला किसान ही क्यो न हो, कोई भी किसान अपने बेटे को किसान नही बनाना चाहता? चपरासी अपने बेटे को

चपरासी बनाना भले ही स्वीकार कर ले, लेकिन चपरासी अपने बेटे को किसान नहीं बनाना चाहता। यह कैसी विडंबना है? मैं तो प्रधान मंत्री जी, यह कहता हूं कि जिस दिशा में आपने कदम बढ़ाया है और मैं विश्वास के साथ कह सकता हूं कि ऐसे हालात कुछ वर्षों में हिन्दुस्तान में पैदा किए जा सकते हैं कि जब यहां का किसान भी यह सोचने लगे कि खेती भी एक सम्मानजनक पेशा है। वह भी यह सोचने लगे कि यदि अच्छा रोजगार हमारे बेटे को नही मिलता है तो हम अपने बेटे को किसान बनाएंगे। जिस दिन भारत का किसान यह सोचने लगेगा, उस दिन गांवों के विकास और किसानों के विकास को कोई भी ताकत रोक नहीं सकेगी। लेकिन मैं इस सच्चाई को भी जानता हूं कि केवल खेती की आमदनी के जरिए, कोई किसान अपने परिवार की पूरे वर्ष तक परवरिश ठीक तरीके से नहीं कर सकता, ठीक तरीके से जीविका नही चला सकता, पढ़ाई-लिखाई व शादी की बात तो दूर रही। यह सब केवल खेती की आमदनी के जरिए नहीं हो सकता। इसीलिए प्लानिंग कमीशन ने इस बात पर विशेष जोर दिया है, बल दिया है कि कैसे कॉटेज इंडस्ट्री, विलेज इंडस्ट्री, कुटीर उद्योग, ग्रामीण उद्योग और अन्य उद्योगों को कैसे और अधिक विकसित किया जाए। श्रीमन्, एग्रीकल्चर सैक्टर एक ऐसा सैक्टर है कि 55.63 परसेंट एम्प्लायमेंट का प्लानिंग कमीशन ने जो टॉर्गेट निर्धारित किया है उस हंडरेड परसेंट में से 55.63 परसेंट एम्प्लायमेंट यदि लोगों को मिलेगा तो वह केवल इसी कृषि क्षेत्र से मिलेगा। श्रीमन्, प्लानिंग कमीशन को मैं इसलिए भी बधाई देना चाहता हूं। मैं दो आंकड़े आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूं। एक तो नौवी पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो आउटले था वह 42,462 करोड़ का था, लेकिन दसवी योजना में इसे बढ़ाकर 58,933 करोड़ कर दिया, इरीगेशन में 55420 करोड़ नौवी योजना का आउटले था, अब उसको बढ़ाकर 1,03,315 करोड़, एकदम डबल कर दिया। रूरल डिवेलपमेंट पर नौवीं योजना का आउटले 74,686 करोड़ और अब दसवी योजना में उसको बढ़ाकर 1,21,928 करोड़ कर दिया। इस सच्चाई को कौन नहीं स्वीकार करेगा कि इस सरकार की नज़र है तो हिन्दुस्तान के गांवो पर है, हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों पर है, हिन्दुस्तान के गरीबों पर है। लेकिन यदि मैं गांवों की बात करता हूं, किसान की बात करता हूं, तो श्रीमन्, यह नहीं माना जाना चाहिए कि समाज के दूसरे वर्गों की हम उपेक्षा कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि यह सरकार अच्छी तरह समझती है कि यदि किसान की जेब में पैसा नहीं होगा तो व्यापारी अथवा दुकानदार की दुकान पर रखा हुआ सारा माल सड़ जाएगा। उसको खरीदने वाला कोई नही पहुंचेगा, क्योंकि सब से बड़ा ग्राहक इस हिन्दुस्तान का किसान है। डॉक्टर के पास चले जाइये यदि सब से ज्यादा मरीज आपको दिखाई देंगे तो गांवों के मरीज दिखाई देंगे। आप मास्टर के यहां चले जाइये तो सब से ज्यादा विद्यार्थी अगर आपको दिखाई देंगें तो वे गांवों के दिखाई देंगे। वकील साहब के पास चले जाइये तो सब से ज्यादा क्लाइंट्स यदि दिखाई देंगे तो वे गांवो के दिखाई देंगे। यदि किसानो की जेब में जिस दिन पैसा हो जाएगा, उनकी क्रय क्षमता बढ़ जाएगी तो मैं विश्वास के साथ कह सकता हूं कि दुकानदार की दुकानदारी चलने लगेगी, व्यापारी का व्यापार चलने लगेगा, डॉक्टर साहब की डॉक्टरी चलने लगेगी, मास्टर साहब की मास्टरी चलने लगेगी और वकील साहब की वकालत चलने लगेगी, यानी सारे देश का कल्याण हो जाएगा। इसीलिए एग्रीकल्चर सैक्टर को इस प्लानिंग कमीशन ने अपना एक कोर सैक्टर माना है। श्रीमन्, दो मिनट के अंदर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा।

श्री सभापति : आपका टाइम हो रहा है।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह : अब एग्रीकल्चर, स्माल स्केल एंड मीडियम स्केल इंडस्ट्री ...**(व्यवधान)**...

4.00 P.M.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : अभी आपने दिल से बोलना शुरू किया है, इससे पहले आप दल से बोल रहे थे।

श्री सभापति : क्या कहा ?

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : पहले पुरानी पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं के बारे में दल से बोल रहे थे, अब दिल से बोलना शुरू किया है।

श्री सभापति : दल से बोलें चाहे दिल से बोलें, मेरी तो दोनों के लिए एक सी सख्ती है।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह : बहुत सारे सेक्टर्स हैं - एग्रीकल्चर, स्माल स्केल एंड मीडियम इंडस्ट्री, और विलेज एंड खादी सर्विस है । इस तरह अब सर्विस सेक्टर पर भी प्लानिंग कमीशन ने विशेष ध्यान दिया है और विशेष रूप से हैल्थ, न्यूट्रीशन, एजुकेशन, आई0टी0 एंड कम्युनिकेशन है । श्रीमन्, लोग कह सकते हैं कि यह प्लानिंग कमीशन की जो रिपोर्ट है, उस को देखने के बाद लगता है कि 5 सौ करोड़ का लक्ष्य आप 5 वर्ष में कैसे प्राप्त करेंगे? लेकिन प्लानिंग कमीशन की इस रिपोर्ट में एक खासियत है कि कुछ लेटेंट रिसोर्सेस की खोज करने की भी बात कही गयी है । श्रीमन्, बहुत सारे प्रोजेक्ट्स जो अधूरे पड़े हुए हैं, उन को ढूंढ निकालने की जरूरत है । मैं यहां इनवेंटरी होल्डिंग की चर्चा जरूर करना चाहूंगा । इनवेंटरी होल्डिंग में अगर हम को कोई भी आईटम बनाना है तो उस को 7-8 स्टेजेज से गुजरना पड़ता है, 7-8 मशीनों से होकर गुजरना पड़ता है और बीच में यदि एक मशीन गड़बड़ हो गयी तो फिर उस के कारण प्रोडक्शन महीने, दो महीने तक रुका रहता है यानी प्रोडक्शन प्रभावित होता है जब कि दुनिया के दूसरे देशों में, डवलप्ड कंट्रीज में यह इनवेंटरी होल्डिंग केवल एक महीना है । लेकिन भारत में यह चार, साढ़े चार महीने की है। अब प्लानिंग कमीशन ने इस बात पर भी विशेष ध्यान दिया है कि इनवेंटरी होल्डिंग कैसे 4 महीने से घटाकर एक महीने तक पहुंचाई जाए । श्रीमन्, मैं उन डाटाज पर नहीं जाता हूं क्योंकि समय की कमी है । यह लक्ष्य निर्धारित कर दिया है कि किसी सेक्टर के द्वारा कितना एम्प्लायमेंट जनरेशन होगा - चाहे वह एस0एस0आई0 के द्वारा हो, एग्रीकल्चर एंड अलाइड सेक्टर के द्वारा हो, कंस्ट्रक्शन के द्वारा हो, ट्रेड, होटल एंड रेस्टॉरेंट के द्वारा हो, ट्रांसपोर्ट, स्टोरेज, कम्युनिकेशन के द्वारा हो, रियल एस्टेट, बिजनेस सर्विसेस के द्वारा हो, कम्युनिटी सर्विसेस के द्वारा हो - यह सारा लक्ष्य प्लानिंग कमीशन ने निर्धारित किया है ।

श्रीमन्, मैं अंतिम बात कहना चाहता हूं । हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि हम चाहते हैं कि 5 वर्ष के अंदर पर-कैपिटा इनकम डबल हो जाय और 8 परसेंट का ग्रोथ रेट निर्धारित किया है । इस बात का ध्यान रखा है कि और जगह भले ही ग्रोथ कम हो, लेकिन इंडस्ट्रियल ग्रोथ अधिक हो । उस के लिए टार्गेट बढ़ाकर 10 प्रतिशत रखा है । श्रीमन्, मैं अब डिस-इनवेस्टमेंट के बारे में चर्चा करना चाहूंगा क्योंकि यह इंडस्ट्रीज से रिलेटेड है । इसे स्ट्रेटेजिक और नॉन-स्ट्रेटेजिक - दो ग्रुप्स में विभाजित किया है । सरकार की हिस्सेदारी तो 26 फीसदी है, मैं उन सब चीजों की चर्चा नहीं करना चाहता, लेकिन इतना कहना चाहूंगा कि डिस-इनवेस्टमेंट से निश्चित रूप से कम्पटीशन बढ़ेगा और एक कारण यह भी है जिस से कि

हमारा फॉरेन एक्सचेंज रिजर्व बढ़ा है और यह 75 बिलियन डॉलर तक पहुंच गया है । श्रीमन्, अब स्कूटर के लिए हम को "क्यू" मे खड़ा नही होना पड़ता, हम को टेलिफोन के लिए लाइन में नहीं खड़ा होना पड़ता । अब इस के सकारात्मक परिणाम हमारे सामने आने लगे हैं ।

महोदय, चीनी उद्योग इस देश में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण उद्योग है और मैं समझता हूं कि उत्तर प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र और कई ऐसे प्रदेश हैं जहां पर चीनी उद्योग प्रमुख उद्योग है । अब इस में लाइसेंसिंग इस सरकार ने समाप्त कर दी है । पहले लेवी एप्लीकेशन 40 परसेंट था जिसे घटाकर 10 परसेंट कर दिया है और सुगर डवलपमेंट फंड रूल 82 में संशोधन कर उस को भी रियायती दर पर ऋण देने की व्यवस्था की गयी है । मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि समाज का जो डिप्राइव्ड क्लास है, जो दबे, कुचले, शोषित, पीड़ित समाज हैं, वंचित समाज है, उस ओर भी हमारे प्लानिंग कमीशन ने विशेष ध्यान दिया है । सोशल इम्प्रूवमेंट के बारे में - चाहे शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के हो, शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब के हो, ओ0बी0सी0 हो, मायनोरिटीज हों, इन के जीवनस्तर को ऊपर उठाने की ओर ध्यान दिया गया है । अब मैं एक उदाहरण देकर अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा । श्रीमन्, मैं 9th प्लान की ओर आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा । पोस्ट-मैट्रिक स्कॉलरशिप फॉर शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट स्टूडेंट्स और बुक बैंक्स स्कीम फॉर शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट स्टूडेंट्स के लिए जो आउट-ले निर्धारित हुआ था वह 9th प्लान में 626 करोड़ का था, लेकिन 10th प्लान में मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि 626 करोड़ के बजाय 1558 करोड़ का आउट-ले निर्धारित किया गया है । अब हॉस्टल्स फॉर शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट बॉयज, हॉस्टल्स फॉर शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट गर्ल्स, हॉस्टल्स फॉर ओ0बी0सी0 बॉयज के लिए 9th प्लान मे 147 करोड़ का प्रावधान था, अब इस पर 347 करोड़ का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है यानी यह दर्शाता है कि कैसे सोशल एम्पावरमेंट बढ़ाया जा सकता है, शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट, शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब, ओ0बी0सी0 और मायनोरिटीज के जीवन स्तर को कैसे ऊपर उठाया जा सकता है, इस बारे में प्लानिंग कमीशन ने विशेष रूप से ध्यान दिया है । श्रीमन्, मैं समझता हूँ कि इतने बड़े लक्ष्य को अगर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है तो वह सबके सहयोग से ही प्राप्त किया जा सकता है और स्वस्थ लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था में निश्चित रूप से सबका सहयोग अपेक्षित है। मैं आश्वस्त हूँ कि सबका सहयोग हमें प्राप्त होगा और जिस प्रकार के एक महान भारत का हम निर्माण करना चाहते हैं, एक ऐसा भारत देश जो केवल धनवान ही न हो बल्कि ज्ञान और विज्ञान मे भी सारे विश्व का नेतृत्व करने वाला भारत हो, ऐसे भारत का निर्माण करने मे हमको सफलता प्राप्त होगी। धन्यवाद, सभापति महोदय ।

श्री सभापति : श्री सी0 रामचन्द्रैया। आपके आठ मिनट हैं।

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, can the entire Five Year Plan be discussed in two hours?

श्री सभापति : फाइव ईयर प्लेन में तो पांच आते हैं, मैंने आठ मिनट दिए हैं।

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Originally, it was decided that it would be discussed for four hours. I do not know why it has been reduced.

Sir, let me, at the outset, congratulate the Planning Commission for bringing out this voluminous document. It contains a candid analysis of our

economy. The Prime Minister had announced that the country should achieve eight per cent growth rate. We should achieve it at any cost. We should achieve it over a period of minimum 15 years, so that all the problems that are being faced by the nation can be solved. And, the document says that the growth rate of eight per cent is very ambitious. I do not think eight per cent is a very ambitious growth rate, if you carefully study the economy of the country. But the Government should not confine merely to policy initiatives. My request is that you should play a more pro-active role. And, it was stated in the dimensions and strategies of this document. The impression is that if we could achieve the growth rate of five per cent, we would be very lucky, let alone eight per cent, as projected by the document. Sir, let us consider the Ninth Five Year Plan. We had estimated and projected that we should achieve a growth rate of 6.5 per cent. But, ultimately, we were able to achieve only 5.35 per cent. I don't want to go into the fundamentals because of the constraint of time. What were the reasons? It was because the core sectors of the economy, as Mr. Rajnath Singh has said, are agriculture and industry. But they have slowly stagnated. That is the reason why we were not able to achieve the projected growth rate. Even if we consider the growth rate of 5.35 per cent consider, it was mostly because of the report of the Fifth Pay Commission, which was virtually thrust on States. That had been considered as a wealth that had been generated in the country. Thanks to the decision taken by the Central Statistical Organisation to include the wage and salaries of the Government employees for computation of the growth rate. This was for the first time that the country had included the value of the services, rendered by the Government employees. Had it not been so, the growth rate would have been much lower than 5.35 per cent, which had been achieved.

Sir, the first year of the Tenth Five Year Plan is already over. And, we have achieved 4.4 per cent growth rate. Recently, I read in newspapers that the RBI is projecting six per cent growth rate for the current year. Assume that the prophecy of the RBI is coming true. To achieve the eight per cent growth rate in the Tenth Five Year Plan, for the rest of the three years, we need ten per cent average growth rate.

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

We need ten per cent average growth rate. This will be a very phenomenal growth rate of the country. That is where I feel the Government of India has got so many constraints, which it is unable to

overcome. Madam, we have to admit that we have not succeeded on economic front. We cannot provide an excuse that we had received a bankrupt economy as a legacy, because in the last three years of the Eighth Plan the growth rate was more than 7.3 per cent. So, that argument also does not hold good. And thanks to the Prime Minister, it was stated in the document, unlike the earlier Governments, the Prime Minister, in fact, wants that a target of 9.3 per cent of GDP growth rate should be fixed for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. If we are able to achieve 10 per cent growth rate in the next three years continuously, then, it will be possible to achieve this growth rate. So, I request the Government not only to confine to the policy initiatives, but also play a more pro-active role. And let us not be complacent by thinking that our job will be over by making legislations, by making statutes, and by announcing the policy initiatives. We have got a more active role to play, because it is a transition economy; we are transferring our economy from command economy to the capitalist economy. So, the Government should be very careful and very pro-active. There is no point in targeting at a high percentage of growth rate, until it is supported by a congenial atmosphere, and proper infrastructure in the country, to achieve those things. Some of the Members may feel this that we are always very critical of the economy, of the country. They say that you are the supporters of the NDA, then, why are you critical? It is because; true friends would always give very constructive suggestions in the interest of the Government; in the interest of the people.

Sir, the Plan Document has very clearly identified the problem of growing unemployment. It is true that we have achieved the growth rate, but, I am sorry that it is a jobless growth rate as Mr. Rajnath Singh has said. The employment growth rate is on the negative side. Sir, we are unable to create employment in the Government Sector; we are unable to empower the youth of our country with self-employment schemes because the priorities of the country are lopsided. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, that is my favourite subject. ...*(Interruptions)*... Madam, the Document says: "Unemployment not only entails high human cost, but also imposes significant costs on society in terms of social unrest and deterioration of law and order." The entire youth of the country is in distressed condition. Madam, it is going to create a very big social law and order problem. We have experienced this in our State also. Madam, the Document also identified other problems. I quote: " The infant mortality rate has stagnated at around 70 per 1000 for the last seven years. As many as 60 per cent of the rural households and about 20 per cent of the urban households do not

have a power connection. Only 60 per cent of urban households have access to drinking water in their homes and far fewer have latrines inside the house. The situation is much worse in rural areas." This is the situation of rural areas of our country. Madam, when we opted for liberalization in 1991, we expected huge foreign direct investments into the country because we had visualised so many things, which are true also. We thought that we have got a very high scientific pool in the world, high technological base in the country, free economy, independent judiciary, etc. We thought of all these positive virtues of a true democracy, which are prevalent in this country, and we thought, we could get large Foreign Direct Investments. The Government should have an introspecton as to why they could not attract huge FDIs. We expected $ 10 billion FDIs per annum. But, for the entire decade between 1991-2001, we were able to get only $18 billion FDI. Even out of this $18 billion, more than 60 per cent came to this country for speculative purposes; for acquiring the shares of the existing companies, and for acquisitions and other aspects.

So, a very small percentage of that amount has gone into creation of the capital assets, for a new industrial promotion. That is a very sorry state of affairs. Madam, naturally, we feel that India should be the natural destination of the FDIs, but that is not the case because of so many reasons. It should have been a very big outsourcing manufacturing centre for the world as China is now. With all the natural resources, with all the human manpower that is available in this country, with all the positive features that I have explained earlier, India should have been a very big outsourcing manufacturing base for this world, but, unfortunately, we could not be. The Government should introspect what are the reasons. We are a very dynamic IT nation, and we are providing very good IT-enabled services, but, inspite of that we are unable to achieve this growth rate. Madam, the reason which I could analyse is the low productivity, both on the farm front and the industrial front. That is the main reason why you have not been able to make India a very big outsourcing manufacturing base in the world. How to improve the productivity on farm sector? I am very sorry, the Government has totally neglected the agricultural sector in this country, not only this Government but, over a period of time, previous Governments also. And, it is high time you gave more focus, more thrust to agriculture, improve the productivity of the farmer. Mr. Rajnath Singh said it was 56 per cent of the work force, but I think, it was 65 per cent of the work force. May be, it is subject to correction. And, still it is an agrarian economy, as about 70 per cent of the people depend on agriculture, and, as he said, 56

per cent of the workforce we are drawing from the agriculture. Unless you improve the economic conditions of the major percentage of the population which is engaged in agriculture, you cannot create aggregate demand for the goods. Economic strength of the country is the panacea for all the evils of the economy that the country is facing, both external and internal. If you are economically strong, every neighbouring country or other countries of the world will respect you. That is why China is commanding respect. So, the solution lies with us only. Let us become strong and create congenial atmosphere, political consensus, as far as the economy is concerned. You will try to achieve this. And, one more thing is the high process cost that is prevailing in this country. We are unable to compete with the products of the international level because of the two reasons, one is the quality and the other is the cost. Because of low productivity and because of the high processing cost, we are unable to compete with the international products. And the reasons, I need not mention, are red-tapism, the mindset of bureaucracy, the people who are concerned, and the corruption that is prevailing in this country. These are all the reasons why you have not been able to invite much foreign capital in this country.

Madam, we should try to sell our country in a proper way, we should project our country in a proper way. For that, it is necessary that we should try to reform ourselves. It is not a question of reforming the economy alone; it is a question of reforming the politics also in this country; political reforms are more essential. And, a particular party, X party, which is vehemently implementing power reforms in a particular State where it is ruling, will oppose the same when it is in the Opposition. This sort of duplicity and double standards should not be there as far as the economy is concerned. It is the political stability that is more needed. That is one reason why we have been supporting the NDA Government because we need Foreign Direct Investments; we need industrial development. For that, political stability is needed. So, that is the reason why we have been supporting the Government, and we expect the Government to make this country more vibrant, economically stronger and improve the economic standards of the people. We don't expect the Government to re-write the history and, try to turn back the clock and try to re-write the history. That is why in my earlier speech also, I requested the Government to kindly declare a moratorium on all contentious issues that are affecting the nation. Let all our energies, our time, spared for the economic development of the country. Then only we will respected and our people will have confidence on us, and then we will not be betraying the people.

Madam, I do not want to go into the reasons for non-achieving the projected figures in the Ninth Plan, but I want to give thrust on agriculture. It is true that it has been neglected, and no effort has been made by the successive Governments, as I have said earlier, for increasing the farm productivity. About agriculture, the Plan document says, "It is necessary to evolve a new approach to agriculture policy, based on a careful assessment of current constraints and possibilities. A sober and careful assessment of resources indicates that both land and water will be crucial constraints on the efforts to expand production in agriculture. India is already in a situation where the extent of forest cover has declined alarmingly. Although in recent years, there has been some improvement, yet, it is a long way from our eventual target. In such a situation, there is a little possibility of increase in the cultivated area of the country, other than through reclamation of wasteland for agriculture and forestry. Indeed, perhaps there would be an eventual decline, as urban demand and environmental imperatives lead to conversion of some agricultural land. There is, therefore, no alternative but to focus on raising the productivity of our land and water resources in a manner, which is sustainable over the long term." Because, this is a sector, as I said earlier, out of which a major percentage of the population eke out their livelihood.

Madam, I would conclude within a couple of minutes. So, my appeal to the Government is to place the economic development on the top of the national agenda that you have failed to do till now, and try to concentrate all your energies, all your brilliant minds on the development of the country and brush aside all the irrelevant issues which are causing social tensions, turmoil in this country. That is not the bread and butter that can be provided to the people of this country. It is very clear from the Plan document, Madam, that the problems have been properly identified. It is a very brilliant work that this Planning Commission has done in preparing this document but the approach has not been satisfactory. So, the top priority is to change the mindset of the people who are more concerned about the economy of this country and lay greater emphasis on increasing farm productivity, maybe, on a war footing, maybe to the exclusion of everything. I emphasis the words, "maybe to the exclusion of everything." Spend more money on infrastructure like roads, power, irrigation, etc., even to the extent of increasing the fiscal deficit, as long as it does not increase the revenue deficit. We need not worry much about the fiscal deficit as long as you produce more capital assets in this country. The full energies of the Government and the people should be utilised only for economic

development and growth, and all the matters of the historical nature should be relegated to the background. That is the need of the hour. Otherwise, we will end up finding excuses for not achieving the growth rate that is targeted. Thank you, Madam.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Madam Deputy Chairperson, the Planning Commission has termed the target of eight per cent growth rate as 'ambitious' and reminded that GDP growth has been declared below six per cent at present. The National Development Council, in addition to the growth target of eight per cent, has fixed up some objectives like reduction of poverty ratio by five per cent; providing gainful and high quality employment; potable drinking water to all villages by Tenth Plan; all children to school by 2003; reduction of infant mortality rate to 45 per 1000 live berths by 2007, etc., etc.

Madam, I would first like to deal with the unemployment issue in the country. The question is : What is the actual number? The Government figures are based on sample data of National Sample Survey Organisation of the Planning Commission. One Employment Exchange in Kerala is covering 3.8 lakh people. In West Bengal, it is 10.70 lakh; in Andhra Pradesh, it is 24.43 lakh; in UP, it is 19.77 lakh and so on. These Employment Exchanges have lost their credibility due to the comparing economic circumstances. By one estimate, unemployment is 42 million and labour force is about 400 million, that is, more than 10 per cent unemployed. Now if we calculate the number of the old people above 60 years and the boys and girls upto the age of 14 years, then the number will come to 42.7 per cent. Then out of 102 crore population, 42 per cent people are not eligible for employment. So, 57-58 per cent population are eligible. They are workable population. Then, according to the NSSO data estimates, the total employment in both organised and unorganised sectors in 2000 was 39.7 crores. Thus, the figure shows that unemployment population has come to about 18 crores. If we deduct the self-employed professionals like lawyers, doctors, etc., the total number of unemployed comes to about 15 crores. This is a colossal wastage of human resources.

Madam, the Planning Commission goes on to submit various reports on employment. It has established a Task Force on employment under the Chairmanship of Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia. Then, a special group led by Shri S.P. Gupta was formed. While Mr. Ahluwalia expressed hope of 9-10 per cent growth in sectors like Urban, Industry and Service,

the Task Force said, "It is difficult to achieve even a 6 per cent growth." But both the groups admitted that agriculture had failed to generate employment. There is a decline in agriculture. In 1993-94, the work force in agriculture was 63.9 per cent, which reduced to 59.8 per cent in 1999-2000. The people leaving agriculture, where are they finding jobs? Where are they going?

Sundaram, in his article in Economic and Political Weekly (Issue of March 17, 2001) has observed, "In recent times, manufacturing sector is not contributing to growth of employment. Growing employment sector is related to real estate, trade, hotel and bar-cum-restaurants."

This section caters to the needs of so-called middle class and the rich by employing the poor including the rural poor. The new economy is not IT economy. It terms out to be restaurant-cum-bar economy.

Generally, during 1987-88 to 1993-94, additional employment opportunity in agriculture was 2.08 per cent per year. But during 1993-94 to 1999-2000, it reduced to only 0.8 per cent.

It is observed that though the additional employment opportunity has been reduced in agriculture, the quantum of growth of additional employment in other sectors though have increased to some extent, but could not rise sufficiently to fill up the reduction percentage in agriculture. It is a fact that rural poor being thrown out of employment from agriculture is disparately searching any kind of job for livelihood. This has further reduced the wage of the labour force.

Further, the Union Ministry's recent circular to evict all tribals and non-tribals from forestland will seriously affect the 8 crore strong Adivasi population in the country. And this will add to further misery of the people.

The removal of import restrictions on tariff reduction has caused steep price falls in the case of most crops. The effect of the new policies is disastrous to the interest of the country. Starvation deaths and suicides are increasing. Poverty is spreading to newer sections and areas; unemployment is rising. This disturbing trend will have to be fought and remedial action will have to be taken to have an 8 per cent growth rate. How to improve the rural economy? Who will control the rural economy? All of these are important questions in our country.

Based on the Sample Survey in 1999-2000, total population below the poverty line was 27.09 per cent. Who was the poor -- most poor? The World Bank in the Report under the title 'Poverty Net' has described poverty as "No Shelter"; as "Hunger"; as "No capacity to attend a physician at the time of necessity". They cannot imagine to purchase medicines. According to the UNDP report, population with access to essential drugs, does not exceed 49 per cent of total population. The situation is more or less similar to that in Honduras, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya etc. According to the same report, in the case of China, it is 80-94 per cent; in the case of Cuba, it is 95-100 per cent; and in the case of Indonesia, it is 80-94 per cent. What do you mean by poverty? Poverty means that a child has no access to safe drinking water; it means a person has no future; he has no work and has no hope for the next day. The Planning Commission has projected that poverty incidence ratio would reduce from 36 per cent in 1993-94 to 4.4 per cent by 2012. People do not believe that in eighteen years, poverty would reduce by 31.5 per cent, when during the past twenty years, between 1973-74 and 1993-94, we could reduce it only by 19 per cent; from 55 per cent to 36 per cent. Moreover, we could not expect that during the days of large scale liberalization, when labour is continuously becoming cheap and unemployment is rising, the number of poor and have-nots will come down.

Now, on the other hand, some survey report conducted by the Union Government, like the National Family Health Survey in 1998-99 has indicated that 48.5 per cent of our adult population is suffering from malnutrition and 74.3 per cent has been suffering from anaemia. The Human Development Report 1999 has computed human poverty index for 92 countries. India's rank in terms of this index is as low as 59. And our country is progressing well. This clearly reflects this country's unsatisfactory performance in alleviating human poverty. It is to believed that 2400 kilo calorie of food grain consumption per head per day is considered below the poverty line category. According to the statistics published in the Economic and Political Weekly, 16 States in 1983 which showed an average calorie intake per capita per 2273 kilos, was reduced to 2189 kilo calories in 1999-2000. According to the UNDP report, families with income below one dollar constitute 44.2 per cent of total population, and families with income less than two dollars constitute 86.2 per cent of total population. Clearly, the actual poverty figures are much higher than the figures given by the Central Government. Now, I would like to put one question. The Planning Commission has fixed the below poverty line percentage in the sample

survey. I would request the Minister to inform me about the modalities to define very rich persons. What is the modality? How many cars they possess? How many buildings and other properties they have? How many dogs of foreign origin they have? Some of these dogs are knowing even English. Can the Government tell us the number of such very wealthy priyileged persons? Are they paying due taxes? Are they properly taxed? And so long as the Parliament and the Ruling Party are not serious to move in that direction, poverty will remain. Rich will become richer, poor will become poorer, black money will exceed white money by a wild margin and we will continue to discuss the BPL, calorie etc.

Now, the issue of Central assistance has been raised by Shri Pranab Mukherjee. He has a long experience. As a result of the policy pursued by the Central Government, almost two-fold increase has been imposed on the State Governments over the last five years. It should be worth mentioning that more than 60 per cent loans of the State Governments belongs to the Central Government. Recently, important Central projects are coming as Central loan with interest of 12 per cent, whereas, the Central Government draws loan from the open market with 7 per cent interest. Why are the States burdened with higher rate of interest?

Madam, Small Savings Scheme is a very important Central scheme. The Government of West Bengal has given much social importance to implement the above scheme. A political motive had acted to implement the Scheme successfully. For many years, the Government of West Bengal has stood on the top amongst all the States so far as this particular scheme is concerned. Now, after paying back the depositor's amount against the Small Savings Scheme, the balance amount is termed as loan amount. The State Government will have to pay back the balance amount, termed as loan, with interest. Why is the balance net amount not distributed as grant amongst the Centre and the States? After all, due to the States' initiatives, the project has become successful and now, the Central Government has imposed burden on the initiatives of the State Governments. Transfer of funds to States for Centrally-sponsored schemes in the State List, should be done from the Consolidated Fund. While the States should try their utmost to improve the administrative quality, to remove the weakness, make the system transparent and pro-people, and augment its own resources, the Central Government should give more powers to the States, to strengthen the Federal structure of the Constitution. If States are weakened, the Centre

cannot stand. The Central Government must change its policy. There are many problems confronting the States. I would not like to elaborate them.

Now, coming to the issue of drinking water supply, especially the drinking water supply in villages, it has been aimed to cover all rural inhabitants by April, 2004. The Planning Commission, on the other hand, has observed, "no water supply and sanitation programme can be successful, if water-related illnesses are not reduced." And we know, according to the same Economic Survey, 2002-03, 70 to 80 per cent of illnesses are related to water contamination and deficiency in sanitation. So, what is the picture on the supply of safe drinking water? The 1991 Census reported that 62 per cent of households have access to safe drinking water. Recently, the UNDP, in its report of 2000, has said that only 31 per cent of the population have sanitation facilities. This is the condition. Health hazards in rural India are, to a great extent, the fall-out of non-availability of safe drinking water and sanitation facility, as reported earlier. These are some of the issues, which Prof. Amartya Sen has adequately highlighted in his assessment of development experience in India. According to Prof. Sen, many development initiatives failed to generate adequate social opportunities and social empowerment of the under-privileged. This can be treated as failure of entitlement, according to Prof. Sen. *(Time-bell)*

My last point is that the NDA Government is saddled with outstanding liabilities to the tune of Rs. 15,03,883 crores, *i.e.* 61.4 per cent of GDP. When they came to power, at that time, the outstanding liabilities were Rs. 8,91,506 crores, that is, 51.2 per cent of GDP. And now, it is 61.4 per cent of GDP. This increase is more than 10 per cent in terms of GDP percentage. This is the result of our Plans. This Government is practically running on loans, on borrowed money. With these observations, I conclude my speech. Thank you, Madam.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Respected Madam Deputy Chairman, senior Member, Shri Pranab Mukherjee gave an over-view of the Tenth Five Year Plan, pointing out the loopholes and lacunae. Shri Rajnath Singh threw light on the virtues of the Plan document. Shri Ramachandriah spoke as a true friend, pointing out the mistakes, so that the Government could correct them. And as I stand here, I represent an affected State, a State reeling under severe fiscal crisis, and yet, boldly implementing the fiscal reforms. And I expect that the Central Government will definitely

respect our sentiments. We have problems, we have reservations, and after we express them, we expect that the Central Government will lend us a helping hand.

The Tenth Five Year Plan seeks an ambitious growth target for all-round development of the country. Various States have worked out their own Tenth Plan programmes, based on certain assessments, in anticipation of the Central assistance to States. The Union Budget for the year 2003-04 provides for Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 43,106.56 crores, for financing the States' Plans. It makes an increase of only 3.78 per cent over the allocation in the last Budget, which is highly inadequate. If States are to perform as per their Plan, and achieve their targets, the quantum of increase in the Central assistance to the States has to be substantial. It is well known that almost all the State Governments are reeling under severe fiscal crisis. Tamil Nadu, as I have already said, has taken bold initiatives to correct the fiscal strategies. The hon. Chief Minister of my State, Madam Jayalalitha, has requested the Prime Minister to endorse a common minimum agenda of fiscal reforms that would be binding not only on the Union Government but also on all the State Governments. But, unfortunately, no significant initiatives have been taken in this regard so far.

The Tamil Nadu Government has taken up the second generation reforms to promote the growth of its manufacturing sector. We have invested heavily on the infrastructure development to make Tamil Nadu the most favourable destination for both domestic and foreign investments. Structural constraints like reduction of the transaction time and cost at ports and customs, interest rate corrections, labour reforms and labour activity, simplification of procedures and deregulation, quality of water supply, technological modernisation and upgradation, reforms in the State level taxation etc., they all need to be addressed, to remove the growth impediments in the manufacturing sector, and we seek the Government of India's help in this regard.

The States are not empowered to access external commercial borrowings. We have schemes funded by the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and various other international financial institutions, routed through the Government of India, in the form of 70 per cent loan and 30 per cent grant. This should be revised to 50 per cent loan and 50 per cent grant. The Finance Minister should enable the State Governments and

3140 RSS/03 – 16

their agencies to access external commercial borrowings for projects where there are clear revenue streams to take care of the principal and the interest repayments.

Tamil Nadu is a water starved State with severe drought conditions. Hence, we have undertaken substantive measures like the waste-land reclamation, rain-water harvesting and watershed development. Unfortunately, we are not able to access any funds from the Central Government under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) because its guidelines are rigid; they are inflexible. The Central Government and the Planning Commission should approve the minor irrigation programme of the State under the AIBP for improving the availability of water resources in the State.

We request the Government of India to give us, at least, Rs.1,000 crores as an additional grant in the current year to facilitate proper financing of our fiscal reforms and development programmes.

The rates of interest on Plan and non-Plan loans given by the Centre to the State Governments continue to be extremely high, and this has to be scaled down to the level of seven per cent.

Similarly, for loans given to the State Governments in the small savings collection, it continues to be very high, and this also needs to be reduced.

The solution to improve the water resources in the State lies in the swift implementation of the interlinking of the major rivers in the country. The Central Government should ensure that the Peninsular Water Grid Scheme is implemented during the Tenth Plan itself. Rivers such as Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Pennar, Cauvery, Vaigai and Gundar should be connected in the first phase itself. In order to develop the irrigation system in the water starved southern districts of Tamil Nadu, the Central Government should facilitate the implementation of the project connecting Pamba Achankoil to Vaippar in the Tenth Plan itself.

We believe that a comprehensive social safety net is extremely crucial to protect our people from the economic shocks and other vagaries. The Noon Meal Programme for children in school is a land-mark intervention by the State of Tamil Nadu, the total investment being to the tune of Rs.645 crores. Under this programme, rice alone is being given to the students from Class I to Class V for a period of 205 days in a year by the Central Government. The Chief Minister of my State, Madam Jayalalitha, has written

a letter to the hon. Prime Minister. She has requested that the entire Noon Meal Programme should be Centrally funded, and I request the Centre to have a large-hearted view in this regard.

We, the Members from Tamil Nadu, are disappointed that Tamil Nadu does not figure in the list of infrastructure initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in the current Budget. . I strongly urge upon the Government to consider locating the convention centre proposed for construction at Chennai. We have been repeatedly talking about the construction of an additional new second airport at Chennai. Chennai serves as the gateway of East Asia, and considering its strategic and locational advantage, the Central Government should permit the construction of a second airport also in Chennai, in this year itself. Thank you very much.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Madam Deputy Chairperson, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to make some observations on the Tenth Five Year Plan. The targets fixed by the Tenth Plan are, to increase the GDP to eight per cent and the agricultural growth rate to four per cent. As regards the per capita income, we have an idea to double it within a decade. According to the Tenth Plan, the poverty rate will be reduced to 21 per cent from 26 per cent. We would create 50 million jobs within five years. As regards the FDI, we are expecting $ 7.50 billion annually. As regards disinvestment, we expect an amount of Rs.78,000 crores through the disinvestment of the PSUs, that is, Rs.14,000-Rs.15,000 crores per year. According to the Tenth Plan, we have to raise the tax-GDP ratio to 10.2 per cent from the present 8.6 per cent. At the same time, the non-Plan expenditure has to be reduced to nine per cent from the current 11.3 per cent.

There are some areas where the Tenth Plan has decided to concentrate. Those areas are, (1) fiscal consolidation, (2) stabilisation function of the Plan, (3) public-private partnership, (4) acceleration and expansion of the reforms, (5) connecting major rivers, (6) problems of urbanisation and (7) reforms for the poor. These are the seven areas where they want to concentrate in the Tenth Plan.

When it is so, what is the global situation? The global situation is this. In the last five decades, the world gross output, the gross product, rose by seven fold. In 2001, the world trade amounted to 24 per cent of

the global gross product. The volume of the world exports rose 20 fold within five decades. In 2001, the European Union merchandise trade was 18 per cent of the world trade and the USA accounted for 19.5 per cent of the world trade. If we go through the past and the present situation, from 1997-98 to 2002-2003, we will find that, in the last three years, it recorded a growth rate of only 4.5 per cent. From 1992-93 to 2002-03, in agriculture, the growth rate was 2.5 per cent. The total growth rate in the Eighth Plan was about 6.7 per cent. But in the Ninth Plan, it was 5.3 per cent only. The inflation rate has now touched 6.5 per cent. The debt-GDP ratio is on the rise. The reasons for the situation are, (1) increase in the primary deficit, and (2) the relation between the nominal interest rate and nominal growth rate. That is the main reason. The combined fiscal deficit of the Centre and the States is in excess of 10 per cent of the GDP. The Centre's deficit is more than six per cent of GDP; it is exactly 6.1 per cent. The combined revenue deficit of the Centre and the States, in 1988-89, was 2.93 per cent of the GDP. In 1994-95, it went up to 3.61 per cent. In 1999-2000, it went up to 6.29 per cent. In 2000-2001, the combined revenue deficit of the Centre and the States was seven per cent. It is a little bit alarming.

When it is so, we have to find out how we can achieve the target. We have set some target. We have set some target regarding employment generation, industrial development, agricultural development, etc. But there are some constraints. How are we going to overcome them? As far as the increase in the growth rate is concerned, the main area where we have to concentrate is the domestic savings. Madam, from 1994-95 to 1996-97, our growth rate of the domestic savings was 24.4 per cent. In 1997-98 to 2001-02, the domestic savings has gone down from 24.5 per cent to 23.5 per cent. But the target, according to the Tenth Plan, is 26.8 per cent. What I feel is that if it is more than 32 per cent only then we can reach the target. For that, what is the duty that is bestowed on our shoulders? To increase the domestic savings, we have to see the household sector savings and have to increase it. Concessions have been given in the equity area not in the savings area. If we have to increase the domestic savings, if deposits with the financial institutions have to increase, there has to be some sort of legal protection. The Government of India should provide legal protection to those people who want to deposit their savings with the financial institutions. That is the main approach. Deposit Insurance Scheme is there. We can completely cover it. But another issue is that even the insurance companies become bankrupt. Now, the private players have also entered into the field of insurance. Some three years ago, in USA, four

insurance companies declared bankruptcy and by this the citizens of USA lost money to the tune of $ 400 billion. When the insurance companies itself become bankrupt, with whom we have to rely upon? The ultimate saver is the Government. The Government should come forward and give some sort of assurance to the citizens who deposit money with the financial institutions. In case there is bankruptcy of the financial institutions, the Government should come forward and offset the loss incurred by the citizens due to the bankruptcy of the financial institutions. In that case, automatically, the domestic savings will boost. But, what is the situation for the last three years? During the last three years, only Rs. 7,000 crores annually has been received as resources through the primary issues.

The next area is the agriculture sector and, in this sector, there are some areas where the Government has to concentrate, namely, public investment in this sector, net addition to irrigated areas, institutional credit and, more importantly, there are some people who are attacking the farm prices in the immediate post harvest period and enhancing the price to the maximum possible extent, during the lean period, for example, the cotton.

In Tamil Nadu, we are having weaving mills, spinning mills. We are expecting cotton from other States only. There are two States where there is abundant production of cotton. There are six to ten people who are hoarding the cotton. Everybody knows that the Government has issued a notification that such quantity should only be actually stocked by a dealer. It means the rest should automatically come to the market so that there is equilibrium.

But after hoarding the cotton first, they create artificial scarcity. After having created the artificial scarcity, they are enhancing the price. The entire textile industry is in doldrums now. I have already requested the Government to invite the three industries, the textile industry, power loom industry as well as the handloom industry, together, sit with them and discuss with them as to what is the problem. You just have interaction with them and see that it is resolved.

It has been said about the commodity exchanges that, if created, if established for trading in the future, options given for the agricultural commodities, everything will be disturbed. I do not think so. It is a wrong conception. Now, I come to another area, the subsidy given to the poor people. There are people who had their education in the convent and from there they have become officers and are sitting in the air-conditioned rooms. They think that 'subsidy' is a bad word in the English dictionary. It is not so

Subsidy is not the dole or donation given by the rich to the poor; subsidy is not the dole or donation given by the Government to the poor; subsidy is nothing but the transfer of income from one section of the society to another section of the society. That is very important. We need to concentrate on some areas. One area is subsidy. There is a feeling in some quarters that if subsidy is reduced, economy will augur well. No, it is wrong. There is another misconception that the Government staff should be reduced. In the last three years, whenever the Government staff retired or had gone on VRS, no posts were filled up. *(Time bell)* Madam, I will take five minutes more. I come to the Railways. Previously, there used to be Ticket Collectors. Now at almost all the Railway Stations there are no ticket collectors. We don't see any ticket examiner on passenger trains. People can enter railway stations without platform tickets because there is no ticket collector. So the Railways is losing a lot of money. Therefore, the Government staff should not be reduced.

Then the Non-Plan expenditure cannot be reduced by reducing the staff. The salary which is given to the Government staff should not be considered as Revenue Expenditure. It should be considered as Plan expenditure because all the plans are executed successfully by the Government staff. Therefore, it should be considered as capital expenditure. It should not be considered as revenue expenditure.

Then comes the question of loans to States. Some are backward States and some are developed States. There is no mechanism to find out whether the backwardness in States is due to the inefficient administration or due to some natural reasons. If it is due to some natural reasons, the Government should come forward to help the States which are backward. Earlier the ratio was, 70 per cent loan and 30 per cent grant. Now the recommendation is that 50 per cent should be loan and 50 per cent should be grant. A committee should be constituted to find out which is the developed State and which is the developing State and what are the reasons for its backwardness; whether it is due to any natural cause or due to inefficient administration. So some norms should be framed. So far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, during the Ninth Plan, Shri K.C. Pant himself stated: I quote, "One, resource mobilisation was according to the promise made by the then Government; two, development during the Ninth Plan in Tamil Nadu was 6.22 per cent and three, it was distributed properly." According to the Central Statistical Organisation, at the beginning of the Ninth Plan, in Tamil Nadu 35 per cent people were in Below Poverty Line

5.00 P.M.

and at the end of the Ninth Plan, it was reduced to 21 per cent. So the status of 14 per cent people who were in Below Poverty Line was enhanced to the middle class level. So, the first point was resource mobilisation, the second point was 6.22 per cent development which is more than the all-India average and the third point was, it was distributed properly. Therefore, the administration during the Ninth Plan under my leader, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhiji, was perfect. It was perfect economy and perfect monitoring policy. We could dispense efficient administration.

Now comes the question of royalty. There is the Planning Commission. There is the Finance Commission. But is there any Commission to find out whether the royalty given to the State Governments is proper or not? Why don't you constitute a Commission to find out whether the States are being given proper royalty or not? There is no mechanism to find out whether royalty has to be enhanced or not. There should be some mechanism.

Now they want to raise the tax GDP ratio. Non-tariff minus loan should be increased. Tax GDP ratio should be enhanced means it should be widened. It should be horizontal, not vertical. It will affect the poor people.

If I remember correctly, the Rama Krishna Mission report stated that disinvestment should be actually delinked from budgetary provisions. But unfortunately, in India disinvestment and budgetary provisions are linked. It should be done in such a way that budget is totally delinked from investments. The amount released through the disinvestment should be invested only in the public sector units to see that units, which are actually craving for the money, should be strengthened, thereby converting them into viable units. The last point, Madam, after all these things, is that we have been concentrating on this agricultural-oriented economy. We are for urbanisation, but at the same time, migration from rural areas to urban areas, because of the economic reasons, is not acceptable. I give you one example. Per year, more than Rs. 23,000 crores worth of fruits and vegetables are perished. We have developed our agriculture. More fruits are harvested and more vegetables are produced, but, at the same time, there are no proper storage facilities. Without concentrating on storage facilities, we have developed our irrigation and cultivation facilities. But,

after having harvested fruits and vegetables, because of lack of proper storage facilities, Rs. 23,000 crores, which I feel will be about Rs.40,000 crores, is lost. Now, if Rs.40,000 crores worth of fruits get perished, this means that agriculturists in India lose Rs. 40,000 crores. If they had proper storage facilities, the amount, which they lost, would have automatically accrued to them as an income. Then, that amount could have been spent on consumer goods, thereby helping the industry and consequently pushing up our GDP. Therefore, for the agricultural-oriented economy, we may see to three things - first the development of agriculture; secondly, agriculturalists should be protected; and, thirdly, the agricultural production should be protected. Then only, we can save the country. Thank you, Madam.

श्री गांधी आज़ाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदया, दसवी पंचवर्षीय योजना मे सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का जो 8 प्रतिशत का लक्ष्य रखा गया है, यह अपने आप मे एक सराहनीय कार्य है और साथ ही साथ इस योजना में एक करोड़ रोजगार प्रतिवर्ष सृजित करने का भी लक्ष्य रखा गया है। वास्तव मे यह लक्ष्य तो बहुत अच्छा है और यह एक बड़ा संकल्प है, लेकिन इसके लिए एक दृढ इच्छाशक्ति की जरूरत है।

महोदया, साक्षरता को देखा जाए तो 1951 में देश मे 16.67 प्रतिशत साक्षरता थी जो कि 2001 में 58.38 प्रतिशत हुई है। इसमें रंचमात्र संदेह नही कि साक्षरता में बढ़ावा हुआ है किन्तु खेद है कि आज के इस वैज्ञानिक युग मे भी 34.62 प्रतिशत लोग इस देश में निरक्षर हैं जो एक चिंता का विषय है और इसमे भी ज्यादातर लोग अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति के हैं।

महोदया, भारतीय संविधान के शिल्पकार बाबा साहब डा0 अम्बेडकर ने संविधान प्रदत्त करते हुए संविधान के नीति निर्देशक तत्व में 6 वर्ष से 14 वर्ष तक के बच्चों को नि:शुल्क एवम् अनिवार्य शिक्षा 10 वर्ष के अंदर प्रदान करने का प्रावधान किया था, किन्तु खेद है कि इस तरफ सत्तासीन सरकारों के द्वारा लगभग 51-52 साल तक कोई ध्यान नही दिया गया। मैं इस सरकार को बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि कम से कम नि:शुल्क शिक्षा का यह अधिकार एक मौलिक अधिकार के रूप मे 6 वर्ष से 14 वर्ष के बच्चो को देने का काम किया गया। यह एक प्रशंसनीय काम है लेकिन इसके लिए भी संसाधन आदि व्यवस्था की आवश्यकता है।

महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहता हूं कि आज इस देश की सामाजिक विषमता एक भयावह रूप ले चुकी है और इस देश में 25 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति की आबादी है। इसके लिए संविधान शिल्पकारो ने आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की थी लेकिन मैं उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं जिससे पता चलता है कि 1.1.1974 को "क", "ख", "ग" और "घ" समूहो मे अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति की क्या स्थिति रही। महोदया, 1974 मे श्रेणी "क" मे अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 3.25 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 0.46 प्रतिशत था। श्रेणी "ख" मे अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 4.59 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 0.49 प्रतिशत था। श्रेणी "ग" में अनुसूचित जाति का

प्रतिनिधित्व 10.33 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 2.13 प्रतिशत था। श्रेणी "घ" में अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 18.53 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 3.84 प्रतिशत था। इस प्रकार से कुल मिलाकर अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 13.66 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 2.81 प्रतिशत रहा। महोदया, 1999 में इसमें थोड़ी सी बढ़ोत्तरी जरूर हुई। श्रेणी "क" में अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 11.29 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 3.39 प्रतिशत था। श्रेणी "ख" में अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 12.68 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 3.35 प्रतिशत था। श्रेणी "ग" में अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 15.78 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 6.07 प्रतिशत था। श्रेणी "घ" में अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 19.99 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 7.00 प्रतिशत था। इस प्रकार से कुल मिलाकर अनुसूचित जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 16.70 प्रतिशत और अनुसूचित जनजाति का प्रतिनिधित्व 6.17 प्रतिशत रहा।

महोदया, मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि जिस विषमता को दूर करने के लिए यह आरक्षण व्यवस्था लागू की गई थी, आज भी किसी स्तर पर यह पूरी तरह से लागू नही हुई है। मैं इस सरकार से निवेदन करूंगा कि एक नियम बनाकर, एक संकल्प लेकर वह इस आरक्षण कोटे को पूरा करने का काम करे ताकि यह सामाजिक विषमता दूर की जा सके।

उपसभापति : आप कृपया समय का ध्यान रखिए। आपका समय 4 मिनट था, आप काफी देर बोल चुके हैं।

श्री गांधी आज़ाद : महोदया, मैं एक मिनट मे अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा। महोदया, हमारा देश एक कृषि प्रधान देश है। आज भी भारत मे कृषि द्वारा 56.7 प्रतिशत लोगो को रोजगार मिलता है। आज कृषि से होने वाला निर्यात लगभग 14.7 प्रतिशत है। हमारे देश की लगभग 60-70 प्रतिशत आबादी कृषि मे लगी है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को इस बात से अवगत कराना चाहता हूं कि आज कृषि मे जो आबादी लगी हुई है, उसमे से लगभग आधी आबादी के पास अपनी जमीन नही है। ये भूमिहीन कृषक पूरे परिवार समेत दूसरो के खेतो मे काम करते हैं और उनको उनके शोषण का शिकार बनना पड़ता है। इसलिए ये गांव छोड़कर शहरो की ओर पलायन कर जाते हैं। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि भूमिहीन कृषको की दशा सुधारने के लिए कानून बनाकर जो कृषि योग्य, बंजर और अन्य प्रकार की भूमि है, उसे भूमिहीन कृषकों मे आवंटित किया जाए ताकि ये अपनी आजीविका कमाने के साथ-साथ देश को समृद्धिशाली बनाने मे सहयोग दे सके। धन्यवाद।

SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN (Assam): Thank you, Madam, for giving me an opportunity to say a few words on this subject. The Planning Commission under the chairmanship of Prime Minister have made detailed plans for Tenth Five-Year Plan period, 2002-2007. The Commission fixed a modest target of 8 per cent growth during the period. The Commission clearly states the objectives, and also targets, in different fields of development to our country. After carefully considering the promises made by the Commission, I am not satisfied with it. Let me take some of them one by one.

Industry is the most important sector where development should be given priority in modern age. This is the sector, which makes the economy vibrant for all-round development in our age. But in this field, the Commission has given emphasis on completion of partially completed or on-going projects and upgradation of existing capital assets before starting new projects. This emphasis laid by the Commission will create greater hardship to the states where industrial development is advancing at a snail's pace. North-Eastern Region will suffer the most because of some pending projects, and no new proposal will come because of this policy.

Secondly, the Commission gives priority to private sector over public sector. It further says that public sector enterprises will be privatised very rapidly during this Tenth Five-Year Plan. This is the worst decision for a medium developing country like India. Unless the strong public sector thrives or this sector is preserved, the country cannot advance. India is not America or it is not like developed European countries. This will lead to further imbalance in economic development of our country. How can North-Eastern Region, or Jammu and Kashmir, or even Orissa and Bihar can advance, unless the public sector is there? This policy will further harm the employment sector. Private sector is always after its profit. They have no social interest. And employment facilities will be less and less after the policy of this privatisation is fully implemented. The Government's policy of selling or disinvesting the PSUs will lead to further unemployment. According to the Commission, the current backlog of unemployed people is 35 million, which is about 9 per cent at present, and it is too high. But the Prime Minister promised to bring employment for 50 million people, during the Tenth Five-Year Plan. But one year has passed without having the promised 10 million jobs. The propaganda of giving jobs in unorganised sector is a hoax. What people want? It is not temporary jobs; they want jobs of permanent nature. But it is not done.

In Assam, 22 lakh are registered unemployed. But no industry is being proposed to create employment. The stipulated gas cracker unit may not be coming into existence before ten years due to bunglings of Reliance Industries Ltd., the ONGC and others. Then, private persons, entrepreneurs or companies do not go to Assam for establishing industries due to lack of infrastructure, communication and for the wrong-doings of some of the extremist forces. The Commission will find it difficult to go to the help of Assam or North-Eastern States as they have the policy of disinvesting and selling public enterprises, and they have no intention to build new industries

in public sector there. So, during the Tenth Five-Year Plan, employment potentiality for educated youths in Assam or in any other North-Eastern States will come to zero. The Commission says, it will give priority to infrastructure building. In this sector also, they want private parties to come in. But they themselves visualise that private parties may enter or may not enter in this sector, or if they enter, they will enter to build little infrastructure. If this is a fact, there will be difficulty, particularly in power and energy sector. In road building sector also, though some very good schemes have been announced, yet some parts of the country, including the North-East, are suffering, and will be suffering. The promises given by the Ministers, from time to time, are not fulfilled in the North-East, though there is a very good potential, to connect the belt, full of raw material, by good roads and to produce the cheapest hydro-electric power for the development of the region. But this is not done. No plan has been visualised to harness the Brahmaputra river by establishing the projects visualised by the Brahmaputra Board.

Madam, during the Tenth Five Year Plan, many new roads like Dhodar Ali could have been made into National Highways in the North East. But the Planning Commission did not have any such proposal.

In the field of agriculture, where 70 per cent of our total population is involved, directly or indirectly, the same privatisation policy will affect the sector. In the field of irrigation and water management, the policy is yet to materialise. The mechanised cultivation cannot be run unless the irrigation system is there in every place, in every season of the year. The Tenth Plan is also on the same line, as taken by the previous Plans. This will also create unequal economic development in different parts of the country.

In the field of fertilisers, the whole Eastern Region of our country will have to depend either on imports or by bringing fertilisers from other parts of the country, as all the public sector fertiliser plants like Sindri, Talcher, *(Time-bell)* Durgapur, Barauni, etc., are closed on grounds of loss-making. Who made them loss-making? It is obvious that the Government is responsible for this. The Planning Commission has no vision to revive these units in the public sector.

Though there is a vision by the Planning Commission, yet it is not up to the expectation of the people of new century, or, the new millennium. It may create further uneven economic development of the country, which may lead to further social dissensions and disruptions.

Madam, North East is a very neglected region, though some good proposals of funding like Nonlapsable Pool are there. Hon. Shri Pranab Mukherjee has dealt with this issue. Actually, this Fund is not properly administered. So, this region will be further alienated. Due to uneven economic development, regional imbalance will also be increasing. So, I urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to look into these matters, when he, as the Chairman, will review the Tenth Plan. I request the Prime Minister to do some thing for the development of the country, as a whole. Thank you.

SHRI FALI S. NARIMAN (Nominated): Thank you, Madam Deputy-Chairperson. The Tenth Five Year Plan is a heavy load of printed paper, difficult to carry in the hand, and almost impossible to carry it in the head. There are so many aspects, Madam, to deal with, but I will concentrate on a very few. I believe, the Prime Minister's Forewords to the Five Year Plan has placed the entire concept of planning in the correct perspective. The message is focussed on good governance and implementation and the quote is, "that the best policies and programmes can flounder on the rock of poor governance and shortcomings in implementation". These are words of wisdom that must guide all discussions and guide all national endeavours. Good governance then is the single most important factor in ensuring that the objectives of the Tenth Plan are achieved. But, I should have thought that the first aspect of good governance is spelt out in our Constitution itself, in a chapter now long forgotten, Chapter IV, which is the Directive Principles of State Policy. The framers of the Tenth Plan have missed the constitutional imperative. Article 37 says that the principles contained in Chapter IV are fundamental to the governance of the country and it is the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws. No one has suggested any amendments to them. Everyone today talks of article 21, most of all lawyers, but no one talks of article 39 to article 50 which makes life worthwhile. Without these rights, which are in these articles, life is just not worth living, it is merely breathing. When we nationalised the core industries in the 1970s, we assumed that the PSUs would turnaround the country. But they did not. Putting the State into running business was a mistake and it is now realised. Now, when we are reversing the process of nationalisation, doesn't matter by what means, which I think is necessary, why are we not paying regard to the other provisions in part IV? All measures have to be judged on the touchstone of Directive Principles of State Policy. That is good governance under our Constitution. And that is the touchstone of on which every State of the Union must be judged as to whether the State is a State of good governance or it is a State of not good

governance. The United Nations have a Human Development Report and they publish it every year. Some of the hon. Members mentioned it a moment ago. The Planning Commission, I would suggest, should judge every State by reference to the principles set out in Chapter IV of the Constitution.

The next point in governance is people. There are far too many of them. Our Constitution was framed when there were only 350 million. Now there are more than one billion. The more people there are to govern, the more the difficult are the problems of governance. And the Plan tells us that changes in age structure of population are such as to lead to a much faster growth of population in the working group age and this will lead to a faster growth of the labour force. Hence, they suggest that there should be more job opportunities. But what is alarming is that with such a high growth as 8 per cent, the objective of providing employment opportunities to addition to labour force, according to the planners, "will not be achieved". And the answer given is try more development strategies. But then please note the warning. I quote, "In this effort, extensive discussions with Ministries and sector specialists have been undergone and at present the awareness of employment generation is very poor while formulating plans, programmes and policies. This applies to most of the concerned Ministries and authorities." This is truly frightening. What are we going to do before the population stabilises in 2045. There is no option, I submit, but for the political parties to educate the people, educate them about the need to control population. We must. Otherwise, there will be no progress. The Planning Commission is not a political body. It should have addressed the problem of burgeoning population in some of the States, as opposed to others, because of massive inter-State differences, as it says, and should have pronounced upon remedies. There is a noticeable reluctance, Madam, to spell out amongst all political parties -- even the Planning Commission is unfortunately guilty of this-- measures necessary for States which lag behind in 'family welfare' which is a lovely euphemism, by which we all describe family planning which is absolutely imperative, if we as a country are to achieve a substantial economic growth and make progress. One last thing, Madam, and that is, the Plan document speaks of conceptualising governance and it says, "efficient governance requires efficient institutions." But when dealing with the judicial institutions, there is only one sentence and that sentence reads, 'there is an urgent need to bring about judicial reforms with a view to speeding up the process of delivering justice. Alternatives to the regular delivery mechanism through hierarchy of

alternative courts like family courts, like Lok Adalats, Nyay Panchayats are needed to be resorted to more often." That is all. But even in these two sentences, there are two errors. It is in the regular delivery system, that is, in the established courts, that people in the country still retain confidence. They do not like other courts. They do not like special courts. The established courts have to be adequately manned with a judge strength which is totally inadequate in India, much less than in many parts of the world. The authors of the Plan should have drawn attention to this. Alternative dispute mechanism, apart from Lok Adalats, have not been successful. All Departments of the Government, all States are consulted before the Planning Commission frames its Five Year Plan, but not the judicial branch. This is, I submit, totally unfortunate. Why should the needs of the subordinate judiciary and the higher judiciary not be brought to the notice of the Government by the judiciary itself? Why should judicial planning be outside the scope of the Planning Commission? This is not for the Ministry of Law and Justice. It is for the independent branch of the Government known as judiciary. I see no reason why the higher judiciary should not actively engage in acquainting the Planning Commission, and through the Planning Commission the Government, as to what is needed to be done. It is done every time, every year in the United States. The judiciary does not sit in judgment over the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is neither a political nor a legal body. It is an advisory body. And, it must be well informed. And, the judiciary, as a judiciary, must acquaint the Planning Commission of its need for resources. And that, I submit, ought to be something that should be borne in mind for the future. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): Madam Deputy Chairperson, the Government is very happy that this august House has taken up the discussion on the Tenth Five Year Plan. I wish to express my gratitude and thanks to the hon. Members who have suggested various steps to be taken in order to make this Plan a success. Indeed, I think, the speech of Shri Pranab Mukherjee is one of the finest pieces of constructive criticism that I have ever heard. In fact, he has thoroughly studied the Plan and also suggested remedial measures that should be taken. Madam, we believe that the national Five Year Plans can be successful only when there is an

understanding of the objectives, strategies and the implementation methodologies of the Plan at all levels. Such an understanding is possible only when there is a thorough discussion and debate so that all the doubts and differences are articulated and addressed. While approving the Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan, the NDC had mandated a set of objectives and targets which were essential to enable us to focus on an accelerated growth. No Plan, however, can be successful without a thorough discussion. Although, the Plan document goes through various stages, it is considered and approved by the Planning Commission, by the Cabinet and then by the National Development Council. But, still, this is not a substitute for the discussions which we have here in this House. What is required is a broad-based consensus and I hope and believe that we shall be able to achieve that. And, today's discussion is pointed in that direction. This Plan has a unique feature, in the sense, the various States were taken into confidence. The participation of various States, in a larger scale, is very much there and they were consulted at every stage, unlike the previous ones when they were consulted at the stage of the meetings of the National Development Council, or, at the level of the Working Groups consisting of officials. Madam, it is clear from the discussion that there are still some apprehensions and misapprehensions.

The first one is with regard to the growth rate. Now, there can be a target and a projection. A projection can be achieved in a stage where there is "business as usual" scenario. But, 'target' is something visionary. We seek to achieve something which we think is possible for us. We have to stretch our limits so that we achieve that target. It would have been possible for this Government to have a lower growth rate and achieve that. But, we have targeted something more; and, it will be our endeavour, at the end of the day, to see that this target is reached. Fortunately, none of the Members has said that that it cannot be achieved. It may be difficult. And, certainly the endeavour of the Government will be to reach this target. Madam, various experts were consulted and stakeholders were also consulted. Their suggestion was that various reform policies and procedures would have to be adopted. I also wish to record that the States were, in fact, of the opinion that there should be a target on the higher side. And, each one of them had suggested their own growth rate. In this vast country, the different States have different growth rates. All these have been taken into consideration to arrive at the figure of eight per cent growth rate. What I could follow from the discussion is that the main problem is with regard to implementation. Now, we have taken two major measures with

regard to implementation. One is that the National Development Council has directed the constitution of four Empowered Sub-Committees, consisting of the Central Ministers and the State Chief Ministers to devise and oversee the implementation of the four most contentious areas -- removing barriers among inter-State trade, creating an investor-friendly climate, governance reforms, and the empowerment of the panchayati raj institutions. Madam, the four committees have been constituted, and apart from that the Government has a priority agenda, and the entire implementation procedure will be overseen and monitored by a Cabinet Committee. In this context, I would like to quote what the Prime Minister had said. He said, "The question is not whether we can grow faster, but, whether we can afford not to...." This country has tremendous potential and it will be our endeavour, at the end of the day, to see that this potential, keeping that in mind, we could achieve the target.

Another aspect of the Plan document is that it does not only focus on growth, its main objective is to improve the quality of life of our people. For this purpose, there are certain monitorable targets, which I would like to place before this House. These are: reduction of the poverty ratio by five points; providing gainful and high quality employment; all children in school by 2003; all children to complete five year of schooling by 2007; reduction in gender gaps in literacy and wage rates; reduction in the growth rate of population; increase in the literacy rate to 75 per cent; reduction in infant mortality rate to forty-five per one thousand live births; reduction in maternal mortality rate to two per one thousand live births; increase in forest and tree cover to 25 per cent; all villages to have sustained access to potable drinking water; and, cleaning all major polluted rivers. Then, Madam, on the employment front, there are various schemes under which it is the intention of the Government to create employment opportunities. It is not that everybody will be getting a Central Government job, but, then, an opportunity will be there, even for self-employment. And the emphasis, Madam, will be that employment generated will be largely shown in the private sector and specially, as self-employment.

Then, Madam, savings and investment is another sector, which various Members have addressed. And the real issue is not whether the projected improvement in Government savings, which is, in fact, the major source of additional savings for the Plan, can be realised. Improving Government finances necessarily involves hard decisions since it means either higher tax collections, or, reductions in expenditure, or both; none of

which is politically popular. This is also one point which Shri Pranab Mukherjee had highlighted. Now, in fact, we have to take steps to increase the collection of taxes and also to reduce the Government expenditure. These are two major spheres where this is attempted.

Now, there were certain arguments advanced with regard to the resistance to the subsidies being withdrawn. But, Madam, there are certain spheres where there are needless exemptions being given, which also, we think, ought to be tightened so that some money may be available. And, in fact, some of the States have shown the way by withdrawing the subsidies; power subsidies, for instance. And, it is the intention of this Government also to follow suit in some spheres where it is possible.

Then, Madam, about the question of disinvestment, a lot of debate has taken place on this aspect, and I would say that it is not stripping of assets, but a switching of assets because the money that is available will be utilized in another sphere. And it is not the intention of this Government, really, to strip the assets of the Government, but to utilize the proceeds, which will be available for development purposes.

Then, Madam, on the question of FDI, if I am permitted, I would like to quote from the Tenth Plan Document itself. It says, "An investor friendly climate needs to be created in the country for all investments, and not just for foreign investors. Indeed, it is submitted that if the investment climate, in general, is improved, no exclusive measures may be needed to attract foreign investors."

Then, Madam, special emphasis has been given to rural development under this Plan and various schemes have been suggested, because 70 per cent people of our country lives in villages, and they depend on agriculture, and that sphere ought to be, certainly, developed in the interest of our economy. Then, Madam, the power sector also requires more generation of electricity, and also the saving of electricity, because a large amount of electricity so generated is stolen; that has to be stopped.

Then, in the Information Technology sector also, there is a great scope and the Government is, certainly, conscious of that; and is laying special emphasis on that.

So far as the infrastructure is concerned, the National Highway Development Project, which consists of the Golden Quadrilateral roads, and the North-South, East-West corridors. These, if and when completed, would

also be a great achievement and these also provide a great scope for employment in course of execution of these projects. Then, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, I think, is one of the best projects that has been undertaken. As regards village connectivity, we have seen that in the villages there are no roads at all, and this Project, if implemented, will provide a great source of income, and the connectivity will enable the villagers to have access to the urban areas.

Madam, there are other points which were made by the hon. Members. I will just take one or two points. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, in fact, as I said, in his constructive criticism, has made certain suggestions which will, certainly, be borne in mind. One of the points which he emphasised was that proper implementation was required. He also emphasised on good governance. Madam, the Government is conscious of the fact, about good governance. With regard to domestic savings, that also has been taken care of in the Plan document. These are really important points which will, certainly, be looked after. In fact, they are there in the Plan document itself.

Then, hon. Members have suggested the improvement of cottage industries and village industries. That, certainly, has also been taken care of in the Plan document, and the Government is conscious of this fact.

Then, in the end, Mr. Nariman, of course, emphasised the question of good governance. He referred to Chapter IV of the Constitution, relating to Directive Principles. Of course, he has taken a legalistic view of the matter, but the root of the entire good governance lies in the Constitution itself, and we are conscious of that fact.

Madam, another aspect which was emphasised by the Members was the population control. We are all consious of that, but, unfortunately, we have not been able to achieve great success in that sphere. For that purpose, I think, education is a must. In this Plan document, there is Sarva Siksha Abhiyan which has been mentioned. There are other Schemes also.

With regard to employment also, various schemes have been provided like the Swaran Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana and the Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana. These are the schemes which have been taken into consideration to provide greater employment opportunities.

Madam, taking an overall view of the matter, I respectfully submit, as has been said by various Members also, that this Plan document does take into consideration the various problems which the country is facing and the remedial measures have also been suggested. I hope that at the end of the day, we shall be able to achieve success and implement the provisions of the Plan. With these words, Madam, I conclude. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, it is for the first time that a Mukherjee started the debate and a Mookherjee replied. We are packed between two Mukherjees. Thank you. The House is adjourned till eleven o'clock tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at forty-four minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 30th April, 2003.